FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 NOVEMBER 1984

Gandhi Assassination Developments

Pakistani President Ziaul Haq assured Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of his government's full support in building a "relationship of trust and confidence" between Pakistan and India in a message reported by Karachi radio. Good and harmonious relations are in the interest of both countries, Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan added in an interview cited by the radio. Pakistan will try to convince its neighbor by words and deeds that its apprehensions are unfounded, he asserted, and he declared that Pakistan has "no intention of interfering in the Indian Punjab or anywhere else." Pakistan will be in touch with India on this issue, he declared, noting that this was an assurance from President Zia. As for Pakistan's delegation to Mrs Gandhi's funeral, it is expected to be led by President Zia, according to AFP.

A condolence message on the "cowardly" assassination from Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to his Indian counterpart, described by IRNA, stressed Mrs Gandhi's efforts for world peace and security and the loss of one of the Nonaligned Movement's greatest supporters. Iran's funeral delegation will be led by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, IRNA added.

DRA President Babrak Karmal and Premier Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, in a message to Rajiv Gandhi, stressed the importance of his election as prime minister "at this sensitive moment of history," after the "shameless terrorist deed of the enemies of India's unity."

DRA

Soviet-Afghan forces launched a new offensive, preceded by intensive bombing raids, in the Panjsher and neighboring valleys on 26 October, according to a message from rebel leader Ahmad Shah Masud released in Islamabad and cited by AFP. Thus far, monitored Soviet and Afghan sources have not been observed to report any new offensive.

In a separate development reported by Kabul radio, the Foreign Ministry charged Pakistan with cross-border fire at two helicopters landing in the Bari Kot region on 29 October.

Lebanon

Syria has agreed to the Israel-Lebanese military negotiations under UN auspices and hopes that the talks will lead to an Israeli withdrawal without enabling Israel to impose conditions or make gains, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam stated in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio following his talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil in Bikfayya. Asked whether Syria is prepared to give Israel guarantees that it will not occupy areas evacuated by the IDF and that it will prevent guerrilla infiltration through its lines, Khaddam stated that Syria is not ready "either directly or indirectly" to give any guarantee to the Israelis or others, and he added that if any party wants to act through the Syrian lines, "we will not prevent it." It is not Syria's duty or responsibility to guarantee Israel's security, he said, and Syria will always support the struggle to restore Arab rights in Palestine.

As for the recent criticisms of the government voiced by Ministers Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri, Khaddam expressed the view that President al-Jumayyil respects their opinions and wants to reach agreement with them "in a spirit of reconciliation." The Syrian official did not blame any one party for the recent renewal of fighting in the Al-Shuf, but he stressed that all parties should be responsible for safeguarding security.

Informed sources cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon confirmed that the talks between Khaddam and Al-Jumayyil focused on the security situation in the mountain area and the reopening of the coastal road. Agreement was reached to invite Birri and Junblatt to return to Beirut, the sources disclosed. A Damascus radio commentary on Lebanon said the Lebanese Government has now begun a "serious march" to implement its policy statement, adding that "loud voices" have condemned the recent fighting and have called for political dialogue to triumph over the dialogue of guns.

In Israel, meanwhile, Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy discussed Lebanon with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Jerusalem radio reported, and the U.S. official will travel to Damascus shortly.

Jordan

Cabinet Reshuffle — A royal decree broadcast by Amman radio announced a Cabinet reshuffle that establishes new ministerial positions for energy and mineral wealth, planning, and youth, and also combines the Ministries of Labor and Social Development. Two ministers lost their Cabinet posts, two more were reshuffled within the Cabinet, and four new ministers were appointed.

Agreement With PLO — King Husayn and the PLO leaders have drafted a written agreement on a future Palestinian state and its confederal arrangements with Jordan, WAKH reported citing the Dubayy paper *AL-BAYAN*.

Algiers Visitors

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Algiers to discuss the recent developments in the Palestinian arena with senior Algerian officials, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Another visitor to Algiers during its revolution anniversary celebrations was Libya's Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, who was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, according to Algiers radio.

Libya-USSR

The atomic energy secretary, who is in the Soviet Union, met with Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Yakov Ryabov to discuss economic-technical cooperation, according to a TASS report published in *IZVESTIYA*.

Egypt

The contract for Egypt's first nuclear power station was the "likely" topic for talks in Bonn between President Husni Mubarak and the FRG economics and finance ministers, DPA disclosed. Also in Bonn, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid received the PLO representative in the FRG to discuss current Middle East developments and Egypt's support for the Palestinian cause, according to MENA.

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'Arafat Cables Condolences to Indian President

JN011709 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a cable of condolences to the Indian president. In the cable 'Arafat expressed deep sorrow on the death of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He denounced the criminal act on her life, and the criminals who perpetrated this act in order to strike at the friendly Indian people's great achievements. Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar stressed that our people, the Nonaligned Movement, and the world struggler peoples, have lost a strong struggler who always supported the peoples' struggle for liberation.

PLO Radio: Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Algiers 31 Oct

JN011719 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] will head a Palestinian delegation to participate in the Algerian revolution celebrations which will last for several days. Brother Leader Abu'Ammar arrived in Algiers yesterday. During the visit Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar will meet with senior Algerian officials to discuss the recent developments in the Palestinian arena and the current developments in the Arab arena.

AL-BAYAN Views Jordan-PLO Agreement

GF011352 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1124 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 1 Nov (WAKH) — The newspaper *AL-BAYAN*, which was published in Dubayy today, said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and four other members of the Fatah Central Committee reached a written agreement with King Husayn of Jordan during their recent visit there on a new formula for the Palestinian action and on another formula for future Jordanian-Palestinian transactions.

The newspaper, which did not attribute its report to any sources, said that according to the new agreement, the Arab Palestinian State will be the name given to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip or to whatever portion of occupied Palestinian land is regained, and a temporary government known as the government-in-exile will be formed to replace the Executive Committee.

As to the formula of cooperation between the Palestinians and Jordan, this will be organized through a confederation involving the formation of three governments: Jordanian; Palestinian; and a central federal government comprising 12 ministers, half of whom would be Palestinian.

The central government, which may include well-known Palestinian personalities such as Fahd al-Qawasimah and Muhammad Milhim, the deported mayors of Hebron and Halhul, is expected to play a political role beginning next year in order to solve the Palestinian question in accordance with the proposed peaceful settlements and international solutions.

The newspaper believes the PNC will be convened in Amman during the month of November if Algeria refuses to host it, and this will be the final session at which the PNC will elect a temporary government and dissolve itself to be replaced by a Palestinian parliament which will have less members and be equivalent to the Jordanian parliament.

Klibi Sends Condolence Message to Indian President

LD011944 Tunis TAP in French 1500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Tunis, 1 Nov (TAP) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi yesterday sent a message of condolence to Indian President Zail Singh following the death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

In his message, Klibi expressed his deep shock following the announcement of the tragic death of the head of the Indian government. After indicating that Mrs Gandhi's death meant the disappearance of a leader who had devoted all her life to promoting the progress of her country and its world influence, Klibi said the Arab world would remember the efforts made by Mrs Gandhi to defend — in the name of India, and as the head of the Nonaligned Movement — the rights of the oppressed people and to consolidate the bonds of friendship between the Indian and Arab nations.

Yamani Denies Saudi Plans for More Oil Production Cuts
LD021314 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1125 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Geneva, 1 [as received] Nov (SPA) — His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Saudi minister of oil and mineral resources, has denied today knowledge of the Kingdom's agreement to reduce oil production even further in the event of other OPEC members being unable to reduce the agreed quantities in accordance with OPEC's plan to defend prices, which was agreed yesterday after 3 day's of deliberations. Ministerial sources said yesterday that should Nigeria, Venezuela, Indonesia, and Ecuador — which suffered from material problems — raise their production above the new share in order to increase their revenues, Saudi Arabia would cut further its production in order to maintain the 16 million b/d ceiling. Yamani told reporters in Geneva today that he knew nothing of such reports and confirmed that Indonesia would hold to what had been agreed.

KUWAIT

Delegation to Gandhi Funeral Named

LD011035 Kuwait KUNA in English 0954 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 1 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Health and Planning Minister Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Awadi will head Kuwait's delegation to the funeral on Saturday of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said Thursday. The delegation, which includes Kuwaiti Ambassador to New Delhi Isa 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Isa, is due to leave for India Friday.

AL-QABAS Criticizes Possible Peres-Mubarak Meeting

GF020455 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 31 Oct 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Mubarak...We Only Want You To Be an Arab"]

[Text] We hope that the reports on efforts undertaken by French President Mitterrand to hold an Egyptian-Israeli summit are false and absolutely unfounded. If this news is true, then we must say farewell to the great hopes we laid on the return of the president of Egypt to his normal position among his brothers, the Arab leaders. Good-bye to our dreams of the restoration of cohesion in the Arab ranks in order to form a strong front to confront the Zionist enemy — whether in negotiations or in war.

We welcomed the return of Egypt — in the President Mubarak era — to the Arab fold. We welcomed him as an Arab president returning to the Arab ranks and not standing alongside Israel. As for us, the matter is decided. So either he is with his brothers, the Arabs, or against Israel. Israel — in our view and in the view of our Arab nation — is a usurper and an enemy entity, and it will remain so until the occupation of Arab territories ceases and until the flag of Palestine is flown over the land of Palestine. We will neither be easy with any Arab leader who extends his hand to the enemies, nor hesitate to regard him as incorporated in their ranks before the Palestinian flag is hoisted in the heart of Palestine.

We were optimistic when Husni Mubarak became the president of Egypt. The developments that followed proved that we were right in our optimism. When Egypt withdrew its ambassador from Tel Aviv, protesting the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and Israeli intransigence toward the issue of Tabah, we believed that Egypt had begun the journey of returning to the Arabs. But the news about the Mitterrand initiative, bringing together Mubarak and Peres, makes us suspicious anew. We find ourselves obliged again to enquire: What if Israel is obliged to withdraw from southern Lebanon under the pressure of the Lebanese resistance and what if it becomes lenient with regard to the issue of Tabah? Will Peres be viewed by Mubarak as "my friend Peres?" No, this is not what we expected from you. We wanted you to abrogate the Camp David accords, to demolish all the bridges with Israel and not to be a bridge that extends from Israel to the Arabs and vice versa. Otherwise, it will do no harm to us — though it grieves us — if we have an "Arab weight" that can outweigh the Israeli strength until the matters change again.

OMAN

Saudi Ships Conclude Joint Exercise, Depart

GF011506 Doha QNA in Arabic 1340 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Muscat, 1 Nov (QNA) — Ships of the Saudi Royal Navy left Qabus Port in the Sultanate of Oman today at the conclusion of a visit that lasted several days. During the visit, these ships held an exercise with ships of the naval forces of the Sultanate of Oman. This took place within the framework of cooperation among the GCC armed forces.

QATAR

Papers Comment on Death of Indira Gandhi

GF012012 Doha QNA in Arabic 0630 GMT 1 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Doha, 1 Nov (QNA) — Qatari newspapers today denounced the crime of the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was the strongest defender of the issues of Arab justice in addition to the issues of nonalignment, freedom, and peace in the world. The papers expressed their rejection of resorting to political assassination as a means to settle accounts and solve problems.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* said in this context that with the death of Indira Gandhi, the Arab world had lost the strongest defender of justice, peace, and freedom in the world. The paper added that the perfidious bullets which caused the death of Indira Gandhi were aimed at all honorable people in the world who take their stand. It is a blow directed against all the noble values and lofty and firm principles in this world — where the honorable fall as a result of treason.

The paper emphasized that the principles for which Mrs Gandhi fought can never be eliminated by the bullets of cowards, because they are principles for all oppressed people and for those who struggle for the welfare of the world, the freedom of people, and international peace. The paper went on to say that Indira Gandhi, who followed in the steps of her father, succeeded in uniting the Nonaligned Movement after the death of her father, who was one of the pioneers of this movement. She managed to use her leverage to move in the direction of ending the Iraqi-Iranian war and by standing up to the powers of evil and aggression in defense of the freedom for all people.

In conclusion the paper emphasized that the positions of Gandhi toward Arab national issues reinforced international support for those issues and achieved results in the international arena. Until the very last day of her life, she continued to call for and work towards attaining the inalienable rights of the Arab Palestinian people. During her era, Arab-Indian relations developed and were reinforced.

The *AL-RAYAH* daily noted that Mrs Indira Gandhi, who is regarded as one of the most prominent leaders of the developed world, is the latest victim of assassination, extremism, and bloody

violence. However, she will not be the last. The paper fiercely denounced the method of resorting to assassination as a means to settle accounts and resolve problems. It said: "For the thousandth time we say no to violence and extremism, and no to assassination as a means to solve problems, because, simply, it does not solve problems but increases the intensity of the fire and opens doors for retaliation and vengence."

The daily added that the weapon of assassination is not an appropriate means to impose even a de facto situation and expressed the belief that the weapon of logical dialogue is a better and stronger way to resolve personal and general problems.

The daily stated that Indira Gandhi was one of the strongest defenders of the dialogue of democracy, and she fell victim to extremism and fanaticism. The weapon of fanaticism and acts of burning, destroying, and assassinating will not resolve India's problems or the problems of the world because it is a weapon of blood and hatred.

The English language daily *GULF TIMES* lauded the rare courage and determination displayed by the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during her leadership of India's course and said that she remained strongly loyal to her principles and courage to the last day of her life without caring about death threats or the attempts of her advisers to convince her not to use convertibles for fear of her life. The daily noted that during the paper's interview with Mrs Gandhi a few months ago she displayed total determination and strength despite threats against her life. She paid the price for her courage exactly as her father Mahatma Gandhi [as heard] paid with his life for the cause of peace for which he lived.

Briefs

Outgoing French Envoy — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, has received Henri Piot, the French ambassador to Qatar, at the conclusion of his assignment. [Summary] *[Doha QNA in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Nov 84 GF]*

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ Criticizes U.S. Support for Israel

PM301637 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 23 Oct 84 p 3

["Political Editor's News Analysis": "The United States and Israel — Who Serves Whom"]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost and Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday discussed joint cooperation in extending aid to the Third World, especially the Latin American states. U.S. officials have already said that there is coordination between the two sides on this matter.

This aid proves conclusively that the United States is helping Israel to infiltrate Africa and other regions. Furthermore, Israel supplies arms to Latin American states supported by the United States and the United States foots the bill.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated on his return tolsrael after attending the UN General Assembly session that Israel's relations with the Third World, particularly Africa, are improving. This shows clearly that, while the United States helps Israel improve its relations with certain African states, Israel helps the United States achieve its objectives in those states.

This joint cooperation comes in the wake of the strategic cooperation agreement signed between the two sides and the U.S. government's agreement to give Israel more aid and loans. The United States, however, forgets a number of important facts as it deals with Israel, such as:

1. Israel is completely isolated in the world and is already suffering from this isolation imposed by the international community.

2. The whole world is now aware of Israel's deception and trickery and no longer believes that the Israelis really want to live in peace.

3. The Israelis are still occupying Arab territories and applying the ugliest methods of coercion against the Arabs.

The United States, above all, forgets that Israel uses the U.S. aid it receives to commit further aggression, not to promote peace, and to perpetuate occupation, not to establish stability. The Americans are aware of this situation but they still deal with Israel. This confirms that they support Israeli objectives and expansionist ambitions. The Israeli infiltration of Third World states is supported not only by the United States but also by all the Western states, who take the same attitude.

In the face of this development the Arabs should make concerted efforts and launch a campaign in the Third World, especially Africa, to tell and explain the truth about Israeli aggression against the Arabs and about the real expansionist aims of Zionism, and also to strengthen cooperation between the Arabs and those states.

UAE

President Expresses Condolences on Gandhi's Death

GF011256 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1350 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 31 Oct (WAM) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has sent a condolence cable to Indian President Zail Singh expressing his sincerest condolences and commiseration on the tragic death of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

PDRY

DPRK Vice President Arrives in Aden 1 Nov

GF011612 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's

Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at noon today Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] and DPRK vice president, who arrived this morning on a 3-day official visit. During the meeting the Korean guest conveyed a written message to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad from Kim Il-song, secretary general of the WPK and president of the DPRK. They discussed in a friendly atmosphere a number of issues pertaining to the development of bilateral relations between the parties, governments, and peoples of the two countries.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed the determination of the PDRY to continue to develop cooperation with the DPRK based on the friendship and cooperation treaty signed between the two countries. He expressed his satisfaction and that of the YSP leadership over the good results of his visit to Pyongyang and his fruitful talks with Comrade Kim Il-song last month. On his side, Comrade Yi Chong-ok expressed his joy at visiting the PDRY and his meetings and talks with PDRY leaders and his acquaintance with the great achievements of the revolution under the leadership of the YSP.

In a statement upon arrival at the Aden international airport this morning, Comrade Yi Chong-ok affirmed that his visit and that of the accompanying delegation is primarily aimed at strengthening and developing friendship relations between the PDRY and the DPRK. In his statement he noted the visit of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to the DPRK and stated that it opened wide the doors to strengthening friendship and cooperation between the two countries, which stand in the trench of one struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism. The DPRK vice president extended the warm greetings of the DPRK party, people, and government to the PDRY party, people, and government.

Foreign Minister Returns From Addis Ababa

GF011630 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, returned to Aden from AddisAbaba at noon today after concluding a visit to Ethiopia during which he held talks with Comrade Felleke Gedle-Giorgis, member of the Central Committee of the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia and Ethiopian foreign minister, on ways to strengthen and develop struggle relations between the two friendly countries and peoples. In addition, discussions were held on a number of international issues of mutual interest, particularly the escalation of the imperialists' conspiracies which are threatening the security and peace of the Red Sea area,

During the talks both parties affirmed the need to strengthen cooperation among the region's countries to ensure the freedom of international navigation in the Red Sea and to strengthen peace and security among their peoples. ANA has learned that Dr al-Dali is carrying a reciprocal written message to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, from Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and commander in chief of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Army.

YAR

Delegation To Attend Gandhi Funeral

GF011858 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] SABA' News Agency has learned that our country will send a high-level delegation led by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, to the funeral of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The delegation will leave Sanaa tomorrow morning for New Delhi.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Maldives

GF011834 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The YAR and the Republic of Maldives have decided to establish diplomatic relations effective today in response to a mutual desire for strengthening existing bilateral relations. The document containing this agreement was signed by our UN representative Brother Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz Salam and on the Maldives side by Mohamed Mustafa Hassan, UN representative of the Republic of Maldives.

AL-MAJALLAH Interviews President Mubarak

NC020950 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0755 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has called for the adoption of a strategy by the Arab world based on coordination and solidarity. Referring to the failure of previous Arab unity experiments, he said it is high time that there is an effective Arab gathering capable of solving problems better than what is currently taking place at the Tunis-based Arab League. This was contained in an interview Mubarak granted to 'Imad al-Din Adib, chief editor of the magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, published in London. The interview was also published in the Egyptian press today.

President Mubarak said that Syria has contacted Egypt through an intermediary, and that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi contacted Egypt 12 times while his broadcasts were directing abuse and slander at Egypt. The president noted that during his contacts, Al-Qadhdhafi asked for unity with Egypt. He also asked that he be appointed supreme commander of the Egyptian Armed Forces.

In the interview, President Mubarak stressed that Egypt's relations with all Arab states are good. He said: Our stand regarding the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv has not changed. Our conditions [for the return of the ambassador] are the resolution of the Tabah problem, momentum toward solving the Palestinian issue, and Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Concerning the domestic situation, President Mubarak declared that popular participation in shouldering responsibility takes time. He also declared that he will continue to explain facts to the people and that he supports the Constitution and will not turn against it. President Mubarak added that there is no pressure on the judiciary either directly or indirectly. He said: I challenge anyone to claim that we have made any contact in any way with the judiciary in connection with the Al-Jihad case.

The following is the text of President Husni Mubarak's interview with *AL-MAJALLAH*:

Al-Din Adib: Mr President, in an interview with the magazine *ROSE AL-YUSUF* in April 1976, you said that the late President Anwar al-Sadat, when he chose you as vice president, said: I know that life in the Army is easier. Now that 3 years have passed since you became president, do you feel that governing and its responsibilities are, in fact, more complicated and more difficult than your responsibilities in the Armed Forces?

Mubarak: (laughing) No, in fact the responsibility of governing is very comfortable [sentence as received]. The most tiring thing in a developing country is for someone to take over the office of president. The citizen wants you to solve all his problems in such a way that the head of state becomes overburdened with everything. The Army, despite all of its responsibility, is in fact, more comfortable. There is no comparison.

Al-Din Adib: Mr President. Some say that overburdening the government with responsibilities is due to the ineffectiveness of popular participation in shouldering burdens and responsibilities. How can this participation be activated to ease the burden on the government?

Mubarak: This process takes time. It also requires that we continue our policy of explaining facts to the people and make them realize how dangerous it is for them to adopt a negative attitude. We must also concentrate on educating the people on the benefits for Egypt if every person shoulders a part of the responsibility. What is important is that we should tell the people the truth regarding the domestic and foreign situation. I believe there is no citizen who rejects the truth. I also believe that we have only this course. Whoever has a better course, let him come forward.

Al-Din Adib: Mr president. Allow me to say frankly to you that there are some who say that the NDP — the ruling party in Egypt — depends more than anything else on your popularity with the Egyptian people and not on the NDP's interaction with the Egyptian masses. What is your opinion on this?

Mubarak: I want to ask you a question — How long have parties been in existence in Egypt? The experiment is still young and does not yet have strong roots. We are doing everything we can to deepen this experiment. I believe that national party work will develop in the future. However, we are still in the process of preparing the people to engage in sound party work.

I will give you an example. When relations between Egypt and Jordan were restored, a party writer spoke about the return [words indistinct]. This is very strange. The writer asked if this step was a prelude to unity and whether this unity would be a unity between myself and King Husayn only or one of unity between the two peoples. The writer described the resumption of relations as being an American-Israeli plan. Why did he write such things? Jordan is a sovereign state and so are we. For this reason I say that we are in the stage of maturing and rising to the level of democratic party work. We are exerting every effort to raise the level of the NDP's political performance to the level of the people.

Al-Din Adib: Mr President, allow me to ask you about a very important issue — the issue of the assumption of responsibility and public service in Egypt. Your Excellency has complained in previous statements about the difficulty of finding ministers because of meager salaries. This prompts me to ask about the seriousness of the fact that any official or minister should calculate his consent to assume a political position in figures. This in turn prompts me to ask whether the logic of a minister's concern during his period of service should be on securing his future in private work after leaving the ministry.

Mubarak: All the work that we are doing is for the sake of [promoting a sense of] belonging. There is no automatic button that I can press to produce [a sense of] belonging. Perhaps you have noticed that we seldom change ministers. Do you know why? In the past, a minister remained in his office for years, just for the sake of being called minister, so that he would later leave and work in an investment company. But now, a minister in Egypt has a duty and he is accountable to the People's Assembly and to the opposition parties.

Let me give you an example. Economy Minister Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id has been vehemently attacked. When I spoke to him about this matter, Dr Al-Sa'id said: Mr President, this is the

price of democracy. We are living in a society undergoing the party experiment and it is natural for accusations to be made and rumors to be spread. In my capacity as head of state, I can survive rumors. The law gives each his right; however, I cannot make a minister work under fear.

Al-Din Adib: Mr President, when I met with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis 3 weeks ago for a press interview, he told me that Egypt maintains very important contacts with Algeria and advised me to follow up this line. What is the truth about these contacts?

Mubarak: (Laughing) Did Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] tell you this? If this is so, then he has all the news. Our relations are good with all Arab states, not only with Algeria.

Al-Din Adib: What about the reported contacts between Egypt and Syria?

Mubarak: Several contacts took place.

Al-Din Adib: Did they take place directly?

Mubarak: A mediator was sent.

Al-Din Adib: Syrian reaction to the restoration of Jordanian-Egyptian relations was strong. How do you justify this?

Mubarak: By God, I cannot comment on this matter. But I wish them success, and I pray to God to cool the situation. I would like to affirm that in restoring relations with Egypt, Jordan was not doing so with a hostile country. It restored relations with Egypt — a state which has struggled and is struggling to protect the honor and interests of its great Arab nation and the issues of the African Continent. Let me assure you that Egypt did not ask Jordan to restore relations. I think that the Jordanian monarch explained his position on this issue in his opening speech to the Jordanian parliament.

Al-Din Adib: Much is being said recently about a possible withdrawal of the Israeli enemy forces from Lebanon. If this actually takes place, will Egypt return its ambassador to Israel?

Mubarak: We have unequivocally explained our position to Israel. Our demands for the return of our ambassador to Tel Aviv are: 1) the resolution of the problem of the Egyptian territory of Tabah, 2) movement toward a solution of the Palestinian problem, and 3) withdrawal from Lebanon.

Al-Din Adib: Therefore, the ambassador will not return unless all these demands are met?

Mubarak: Exactly.

Al-Din Adib: Some wonder what the next Egyptian step toward strengthening Egyptian-Soviet relations will be. Do you expect to visit Moscow soon?

Mubarak: This is not being contemplated at all. Furthermore, why the hurry?

Al-Din Adib: Talk has recently increased about the possibility of promoting the idea of an international Middle East peace conference. What is the Egyptian position on this matter?

Mubarak: Talk about this subject began a long time ago. It was raised through the Egyptian-French plan submitted to the Security Council. What matters for convening such a conference is for the parties to agree. The United States and Israel reject the idea of an international conference. With whom shall we sit in such a case?

Al-Din Adib: If a formula similar to Camp David, in the form of a mini-conference to be attended by Egypt, the United States, Israel, and Jordan, with the approval of the PLO, and having an acceptable agenda, is proposed to you, will you accept it?

Mubarak: If all these parties agree, we will have no objection. What matters is the agreement of these parties. We have no objection if the other parties agree.

Al-Din Adib: You are a realistic man who does not speak of dreams...

Mubarak: [interrupting] Dreams are for the night while we are sleeping; the day is only for work.

Al-Din Adib: I mean the dreams of unity from the ocean to the Gulf. On your return from Jordan you said at Cairo Airport, in reply to a question on the possibilities of unity between Egypt and Jordan, that unity has become old fashioned. Can you explain to us your ideas on this matter?

Mubarak: Let me tell you that I said that unity is old fashioned. I actually mean it. I personally believe that every Arab citizen is convinced of this. There is the outbidder who says we are unionists. But deep in his heart he believes that it is actually old fashioned.

Let us review modern history. The unity between Egypt and Syria did not last more than 3 years, from 1958 to 1961; our unity with Libya, what has happened to it, and what is the future of Libya's unity with Morocco, with Egypt, and with Algeria? What is the future of Syria's unity with Iraq? I hope that we will attain a single Arab unity that will succeed. I believe that the time has come for an effective Arab grouping capable of solving problems better than the Arab League currently based in Tunisia. I believe that it would be better if we concentrate our efforts on finding agreement on a unified strategy, to stop the campaigns of vilification and defamation, and to stop thinking of others as being perfidious. We must put an end to the theory that all Arab rulers are traitors. I say that all of them are patriotic. When we tried [to achieve unity] with Libya, it became clear that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi wanted to assume the post of the supreme commander of the Egyptian Armed Forces.

Al-Din Adib: Have there been any recent contacts between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and yourself?

Mubarak: Yes, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has contacted me more than 12 times for the sake of establishing unity. He was making

this request to me at a time when the Libyan information media was attacking and slandering us. How can this be possible? How can unity be achieved between us while abuse is being heaped upon us? Let me confirm to you that real unity in the true sense of the word is a project that will not succeed in our Arab world under current circumstances. In short, it will not be useful.

Al-Din Adib: What will possibly be useful?

Mubarak: Coordination and solidarity.

Al-Din Adib: What will the reactions be if the unexpected happens and the Democratic candidate, Walter Mondale, wins the Presidency in the U.S. elections? How will this affect U.S. policy in the Middle East?

Mubarak: We shall deal with the U.S. Administration whether it is Republican or Democratic. We believe that the United States is a great power which has its own strategy and numerous interests in the world which it cannot dispense of in any way whatsoever. We are not apprehensive of this or that [person] winning. As far as Reagan is concerned, he is an excellent man and I hope he will succeed. Even if Mondale comes [to power], I knew him when he was vice president.

Al-Din Adib: Let me ask you a question which has often been put to you, but because of the importance of the subject, I think we should discuss it further. We know that the Egyptian Constitution does not oblige you to appoint a vice president. But suppose one day you decide to choose a vice president, what qualifications for the job do you think the person should have? Would you want a young or an old person? Would you want a technocrat or a politician? Would you want a civilian or a military person?

Mubarak: Look, it does not matter to me whether he is a technocrat or politician, a civilian or a military person, young or old. I want an Egyptian person, active, capable of shouldering the responsibility and of completing the mission. Whether he is a civilian or in the military, he is, in the final analysis, an Egyptian.

At this point, the president looked at us and said with a smile: To reassure you, I have no specific person in my mind.

Al-Din Adib: Some say that what rules in Egypt is the "power of the law." But those who maintain this view say that this reduces the "power of the state." What is your comment on this view?

Mubarak: Everyone is entitled to say what he thinks is right. If one day a president takes my place and lets the power of the law fall for the sake of his power, let him do that. However, I think there is no substitute for the rule of law for the ruler and the ruled. This is the solution, and this is security.

Al-Din Adib: Then what is the reason for the plurality in the Egyptian judicial system? What is the reason for the existence of a socialist public prosecuter [office created during rule of Al-Sadat] when the regular judicial authorities are capable of performing their task?

Mubarak: If you refer to the law you will find that the authorities of the socialist public prosecuter are not in conflict with the regular judicial authorities.

Al-Din Adib: Some rumors have said that the reduced sentences given to Al-Jihad organization members may be followed by a reconciliation between the regime and Islamic organizations.

Mubarak: First, we have no quarrel with anyone. Second, we have no influence in any way on the courts. I defy anyone to say that we have contacted the judiciary in the Al-Jihad case in one way or another. Let me say to you that when the presiding judge in the Al-Jihad case returned from a treatment trip abroad, before the sentences were issued, I did not contact him or send him a message to say: Praise be to God for your safe return.

I did not do this so it would not be misinterpreted. I assure you that the sentences issued in the Al-Jihad case were based on the judge's conscience and the spirit of the law.

Al-Din Adib: Let me ask you a personal question. Being a president, and having a family, living on a monthly salary, have you ever faced a request from members of your family that was beyond your financial capabilities?

Mubarak: I do not do anything that is not within my capabilities. I am a man whose household runs according to his capabilities. My family knows this, and, therefore, they do not ask. However, let me ask you, what can they ask of me, for example?

Al-Din Adib: Your children, for example. Are you not making preparations for their marriage, which involves a lot of expenses?

Mubarak: The children are not yet married. When they decide to marry, I will celebrate according to my pocket. May God's blessing be on someone who knows his limits.

Al-Din Adib: In a press interview 6 years ago, you said: I was born in the village of Kafr al-Musaylihah. My father was a simple employee who owned 4 feddans. Did this affect your social and political outlook?

Mubarak: My outlook became clear through my actions.

Al-Din Adib: Some are busy trying to classify your political inclination. Some consider you a social democrat, others a disguised rightist, and others a disguised leftist.

Mubarak: I must keep them guessing so that they will use their minds a little. First, they said I was a leftist, then a democrat, and then a rightist. Let the people speak as long as it harms no one.

Al-Din Adib: Mr President, some say you must settle this matter.

Mubarak: Our Constitution has settled it. I adhere to the Constitution. Our regime is democratic socialist. I ask what makes them say I am rightist or leftist.

Al-Din Adib: When you talk about the public sector, they say you are a leftist. When you encourage the private sector, they say you are a rightist. When you act in both directions, they say you are a centrist.

Mubarak: I support the Constitution and I will not turn against it. I will not try to interpret it as I please.

Al-Din Adib: My final question, Mr President, is a theoretical one that has been preoccupying me for a long time. I hope you will answer it. If you had been president of the Arab Republic of Egypt in November 1977, would you have gone to occupied Jerusalem?

Mubarak: In fact, I cannot answer this question; it is above my prophetic capability. The then president of the Republic had information available to him which I did not have. If I had this information, I do not know if I would have gone or not. I could have made such a decision, but I could have made another decision.

AL-DUSTUR: New Cabinet Expected Within Weeks

JN011358 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Nov 84 pp 1, 22

[Exclusive dispatch]

[Text] Cairo — Reliable sources have said that large-scale state and party changes will take place in Cairo within the next few weeks. These sources added that a new government is expected to be formed and that Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, speaker of the Egyptian People's Assembly, is the strongest candidate to replace Kamal Hasan 'Ali, whose health will probably not allow him to continue in his post. Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat, former foreign minister and one of the NDP leaders, will come into the limelight.

Observers here believe that the Egyptian leadership is seeking the help of Nasirite and national figures who are well known for their efficiency and good reputation as a step toward getting rid of elements loyal to late President al-Sadat. They interpret these changes as a new stage marked by work for Egypt's return to its Arab nation and by healing the rift caused by Al-Sadat's step.

Briefs

Agreement With Hungary — Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) — Egypt and Hungary signed an agreement this morning on technical cooperation in the fields of electricity and energy. Engineer 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sayyad, chairman of the Egyptian Electricity Authority, signed the agreement for Egypt, while Hungarian Ambassador Erno Simony signed for Hungary. Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, who attended the signing ceremony, said that the agreement stipulates that the Hungarian Government will provide a $9-million loan with easy terms for the renewal and development of the Al-Tabbin power station. [Excerpt] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 1 Nov 84 NC*]

Armed Forces Command Issues Battle Communique

JN011717 Baghdd Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Communique No 1,637 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 November 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of cherished Iraq and its people's brilliant future, our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their combat activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the defeated Khomeyniite clique. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follow:

1. Our forward units fired on groups of enemy troops and vehicles in the central sector of the operational theater, inflicting losses in men and equipment. Five enemy observation posts, two vehicles, and one hardware stockpile were destroyed. Those manning the observation posts were killed. Our units also captured 11 rifles, 3 light rocket launchers, and 3 radio sets which the defeated enemy forces left behind upon fleeing the battlefield in the recent Sayf Sa'd battle.

2. The brave artillery men dealt violent and painful blows to enemy positions, troop concentrations, engineering vehicles, and weapon emplacements in the operational sector east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits. Three troops were killed and one heavy machine gun, one bulldozer, two infantry positions, and one observation post were destroyed.

3. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and vehicles in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting large losses in men and equipment and destroying two hardware stockpiles and one vehicle and its occupants. Elsewhere in the same sector, fresh groups of Iranian civilians, fleeing the sway of the ruling Iranian clique, sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

4. Three infantry positions were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. The rancorous enemy shelled a civilian establishment in Basra with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 November 1984

Minutes on Cooperation Signed With Romania

JN011800 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — Iraq and Romania signed the joint minutes of the eighth session of the joint committee for economic, technical, and trade cooperation here today. Iraqi Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali and Romanian Deputy Premier Ion Nicolae, who headed the two sides to the committee, signed them.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Hasan 'Ali expressed his appreciation for the efforts that were exerted to work out this economic document and for the results that the two sides have reached in the interest of the two countries' peoples.

Ion Nicolae said that the minutes will promote joint action between the two friendly countries. He also expressed his admiration for Iraq's accomplishments in all fields.

The minutes provide the foundations for bolstering and promoting the volume of trade exchange and the areas of economic cooperation in the industrial, irrigation, housing, and construction fields, in addition to the scientific, cultural, and technical fields.

Turkish Minister Talks With Ramadan, Others

TA011911 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Cahit Aral left for Iraq today after concluding his visit to Saudi Arabia. In Baghdad, Aral met with Taha Yasin Ramadan, the Iraqi first deputy prime minister, and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali al-Amiri for talks on bilateral relations. Later, Aral called on Minister of Industry and Minerals Subhi Yasin Khudayr. Bilateral trade and industrial relations were discussed during the visit. Moreover, Aral participated in the opening of the 21st International Fair being held in Baghdad and opened the Turkish pavilion in the fair, in which industrial goods are being exhibited.

Minister Confers With GDR, Pakistani Ministers

JN011458 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of irrigation, met here today with Felix Meier, GDR minister of electrical engineering and electronics. The Iraqi minister also met with Elahi Bux Soomro, Pakistani minister of industry. They discussed areas of promoting cooperation in the field of implementing irrigation projects in Iraq.

Agriculture Minister, Bulgaria's Petkov Confer

JN011644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, met today with Aleksandur Petkov, Bulgarian minister-chairman of the National Agro-Industrial Union, who is currently in Iraq to attend the opening ceremony of the 21st Baghdad International Fair. The two sides discussed the spheres of cooperation between the two friendly countries and areas of promoting them, particularly exchanging agricultural knowledge in the interest of the Iraqi and Bulgarian peoples.

Hammadi Relieved of Post; To Be Assembly Speaker

JN011420 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) — A republican decree has been issued here relieving Dr Sa'dun Hammadi of his post as minister of state at the presidential office. The decree followed Dr Sa'dun Hammadi's election as National Assembly speaker in order to enable him to assume his new duties.

King Husayn Grants Interview to London Magazine

JN021214 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Nov 84 p 16

["Text" of interview with King Husayn by 'Imad al-Din Adib, chief editor of the London-based Arabic magazine *AL-MAJALLAH*, in Amman; date not given]

[Text] Question: Your Majesty, I have a question which may sound somewhat strange. It came to mind after reading your book *My Profession as King*. The question is: In these bad Arab times, are you satisfied with your profession as king?

The king: At this particular time, perhaps every official senses the burden of responsibility. Still, he has no choice but to assume the trust of responsibility and to work for the general good. I cannot say that I am satisfied, because we are always trying to achieve what is better. What I have always worked for is a future that is better than our present.

Question: In your interview with the prominent Italian writer Oriana Fallaci, you said: At the beginning of my work as king, I made many mistakes, but I have learned from them. My experience has taught me not to repeat those mistakes. Today, Your Majesty, while you are contemplating past events, what were your gravest mistakes?

The king: Sir, it is human to err. Age and maturity are of course key points in making decisions. I faced many difficulties at first, but I always tried my best. I always listened to other people's opinions and advice so my decisions would be sound. Above all, I was never ready to compromise our principles in any way. I have often faced difficulties and hardships due to this stand. When I review the events in my life, I find that the option or decision I made was the best I could do. I always try to have a free conscience.

Question: Do you believe, Your Majesty, that your decision in the early seventies concerning the United Kingdom plan, or your 1974 decision in Rabat concerning the PLO were among the wrong decisions you made? If it were possible to change history, would you have changed either decision?

The king looked at me, lit his pipe cooly, calmly, and pensively and then said: The situation in 1971 was different from that in 1974 in Rabat. In 1971, we proposed the United Kingdom plan as a form of future relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians. At that time, we were speaking, of course, from our sense of responsibility and awareness of the tragedies and vestiges of fedayeen action.

After the 1967 defeat, circumstances were such that I had to concern myself with the internal situation in order to cope with the aftermath of the Israeli occupation. Since Jordan sought to defend Palestinian soil, I did not foresee any kind of dispute or problems arising between us and any side under any circumstances. Perhaps we were negligent and should have taken measures to prevent those tragic events and vestiges whose price we have paid as Jordanians and Palestinians.

After all these years of searching for a solution, we now find that this solution is very close to the options that Jordan had chosen in the past, such as the organization of the relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians.

Regarding the 1974 Rabat summit resolution, I have already spoken clearly about the phase that preceded its adoption. I spoke as a brother who places on his brothers' shoulders what might become their responsibility. I believe that something went wrong as a result of the Rabat summit resolution. But I remained committed to the resolution. I have not changed and will not change my position. All around me were in agreement on this opinion and I committed myself to it. We believe that there will be no solution to the Palestine question as long as the Palestinians are not considered a major party in any settlement.

Today, the PLO assumes the responsibility of Palestinian decisionmaking. It is also facing the danger of being dominated, disrupted, and weakened. The only way to face this situation is for the Jordanian and the Palestinian to be the epitome of cohesion.

Question: What Your Majesty has said contains some optimism, because if we reevaluate the dynamism of the relationship between the PLO and Jordan, we would reach the conclusion that even if complete cohesion is attained, it would be difficult to visualize where the next step in this relationship may lead.

The king: Perhaps you are right on this point. This remark of yours, perhaps, has been one of the reasons which prompted us to hold discussions with our Palestinian brothers on the next step. However, I would like to make it clear to everyone that we opposed and continue to oppose the Camp David accords. I would like here to distinguish between two things: first, the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship; second; Jordanian-Palestinian coordination on the liberation of the occupied territories.

With respect to the relationship between Jordan and the Palestinians, no party has the right to argue with us about it. These matters are private matters. Neither the United States nor Israel have the right to explain or interpret them. When the occupied territories return to their owners, God willing, the right to self-determination will be exercised through what will be agreed upon between Jordanians and Palestinians. Until the attainment of the aspired goal, we will assist the PLO, which expresses the Palestinian people's aspirations and hopes, against the attempts to influence it, put pressure on it, and impose hegemony on it or control and contain it.

Question: The expression "right to self-determination" which Your Majesty has just mentioned may cause confusion in the minds of some people. The current question is whether the confederal union between you and the PLO would lead in the end to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination or to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state?

Once again the king lights his pipe, thinks for a while, and says: Sir, the discussion will have no meaning if there is no Jordanian-Palestinian relationship. In fact, we constitute a single Palestinian-Jordanian family. Through this relationship, the Jordanian clings to his personality and identity, as does the Palestinian. We try to seek a model and balanced relationship which both parties would apply. This, of course, if we want to discuss the

nature of this relationship. Obligations and duties toward this relationship are imposed on us. This relationship cannot impose on us what we Jordanians and Palestinians alike cannot accept within our one family.

Question: Any person who studies your political history must note the very difficult and dangerous stages you faced, such as the bullets in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in 1951, the explosion in the office of your Prime Minister Hazza' al-Majali in 1960, the attempts to poison your food, and the caustic material put in your nosedrops. All these dangers urge me to repeat what many are now saying about the dangers which surround you. Some employ the terminology used in chess, of which you are master, to say that if Jordan negotiates, you will find yourself facing checkmate, and that if you do not negotiate you will also face checkmate.

The king: Negotiate with whom? Negotiate for whose sake and how? If we reach a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement with God's help, then we can agree on a framework which we would present to our brothers. However, what is taking place now complicates the situation. The United States, which is a basic party, has changed its stand since 1956 and 1967 and has now reached the stage of strategic alliance with Israel.

When these people call on Jordan to negotiate, I tell them the answer to that is very simple: You have changed your position and stand to the point where you have no right to ask anyone to consider you and deal with you as an influential superpower. When U.S. policy turned completely in favor of Israel, the United States lost its role as a fair judge on this question.

This is why I am calling for an international conference for Middle East peace. I would also prefer that the permanent member-states of the UN Security Council discuss the issues of all parties in the region, including the PLO. There should not have been any other proposal in the first place.

Israeli presence on our territory continues with the power of financial, military, and political support. The Palestinians must be a mjaor party in any discussion of the future of their question.

Question: Israel is governed today by a controversial coalition. Do you belong to those who hold the theory that Israel has moderates and hawks or to those who say that Israel functions with the brain of one man?

The king: There may be difference in names, but there is no difference in policies. The settlement logic dominates everyone.

Question: There is talk in Israel that Ari'el Sharon is serious in his statements when he says that Jordan should be the alternative homeland for the Palestinians. Do you take these statements and threats seriously?

The king: Of course, Sir. This matter takes up much of our attention. We take it seriously. We understand the nature of the Israeli statements and have made the necessary calculations for them.

Question: Are there any specific Jordanian measures to deal with this situation should, God forbid, Israel embark on this plan?

The king: There are measures, of course. We will resist this situation with everything we possess. In such a situation, we will be ready to sacrifice our lives in defense of our national soil. Jordan's relationship with the other Arab brothers will be important and vital in this regard. Israel has an arsenal that helps it in such plans.

Question: Your Majesty, do you not believe that your relationship with Syria in particular must improve first in order to confront such Israeli threats?

The king: There must be Syrian-Lebanese-Jordanian- Palestinian coordination so the Syrian side can play its role in also helping Lebanon if it is exposed to similar circumstances. This is bound to happen. But Syria has tried and is still trying to contain the PLO. It has also adopted a non-Arab stand on the Iraq-Iran war.

Our duty in Jordan is to protect Iraq — our country, support, and strategic depth — in all the battles it is waging. Syria is also adopting a negative attitude toward the efforts to unify Arab ranks in order to overcome the present Arab situation.

Question: There are unconfirmed reports that during the Syrian president's last visit to Moscow, Syria requested that the Soviet leaders defer your visit to the Soviet capital. Do you have any confirmation of these reports.

The king: We do not have any confirmed reports. But what is definite is that our visit will take place and a date will be set soon.

Question: If we review your unionist experiences, we find that Jordan's experience with Iraq, Syria, and finally the Palestinians, not to mention a second time with the Syrians, has passed through difficult and painful circumstances. When *AL-MAJALLAH* interviewed President Husni Mubarak last week, he told us that "Unity is old fashioned." Can you explain to us from your experience why Arab unity attempts fail?

The king: If you go back to part of what I wrote, you will find that the unity we seek must be based on action and on an economic, cultural, amd military integration. A good example exists from which we can benefit in our Arab attempts. This example is the EEC. However, what is taking place now makes us pessimistic about any unity. We must proceed with firm steps and realistic calculations. As for emotional moves, they certainly will not last.

Question: Do you consider the unity decision between Morocco and Libya and emotional one?

The king lit his pipe for third time and appeared to be choosing his words. He said: We hope this decision is not an emotional one, but the circumstances and conditions in which it was made make us doubt its seriousness.

Question: Many analyses and conjectures have been made in the region as to the motives for your decision to resume relations with Egypt. One opinion says that the decision was made some time ago but that its timing came as "a master stroke" to disrupt U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's moves toward Syria and make Washington reconsider its policy toward Damascus.

The king: Jordan freely adopted its decision to restore relations with Egypt some time before it was declared. This decision had nothing to do with any U.S. tours of the region; it was adopted with full conviction for the sake of rectifying conditions in the region.

Question: Your Majesty, may I ask about the domestic situation in your country? Upon walking Amman's streets and following up economic conditions, I noted a large accumulation of wealth by some. This wealth, however, is utilized not in productive projects, but in consumer projects. Do you not think it is time to rationalize this situation?

The king: We are doing our best to improve our economic conditions. We realize that our people have sacrificed a great deal and experienced difficult circumstances. What you saw was a natural result of the recent upswing. However, we are seeking to study and control the situation in a manner that ensures the welfare of the citizen and the society.

Question: But some fear that within the equation of a rich people and a less rich government the rising "business" class may affect government policy.

The king: (He did not seem to be taken aback by the question, and answered calmly:) Sir, we are trying to balance this and that, and the process of controlling matters is in our hands. We do not fear the increase in private investment. However, you should also take into consideration the projects undertaken by the government. Amman, which you see today, was inhabited by 3,000 people living in a limited area. After all the circumstances they encountered, our people deserve to have access to all possible means of life.

Question:Your Majesty, allow me to raise a question. I am confident you will agree with me that it is a serious one. After the establishment of the Jordanian Parliament and after your announcement on the beginning of confederal consultations with the PLO, some in Jordan began to raise the chauvinist view that "This is Palestinian, that is Jordanian."

The king: (Speaking firmly) I fully agree with you that if this matter goes beyond its limits it will turn into a serious affair. All our people should stand against it. We are living under the umbrella of one Jordanian family. Our responsibilities toward the Palestinian people should be viewed in the light of the one family. This matter is completely rejected.

Question: My last question, Your Majesty, is about occupied Jerusalem. The occupation of Jerusalem affected you when it fell to the Israeli enemy in 1967. Could your heartfelt feelings toward Jerusalem one day prompt you to adopt an emotional decision to visit the holy city, regardless of sensitivities?

The king: (Without hesitation) Never. I will not go to Jerusalem while it is under occupation. Despite all the emotional considerations linking me to it, I will not go. Never.

Royal Decree Names New Cabinet Ministers

JN011414 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Amman —A royal decree has been issued approving the resignation of Dr 'Abdallah 'Uwaydat, minister of culture, youth and antiquities; and 'Abd al-Salam Kan'an, minister of social development. Another royal decree has been issued approving the Cabinet reshuffle. The following is the text of the decree: We, Husayn the first, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, taking cognizance of Article 35 of the Constitution and according to the prime minister's recommendation, decree the following:

Tahir Hikmat shall be appointed minister of culture, tourism, and antiquities;

Dr Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir shall be appointed minister of labor and social development;

Farhi 'Ubayd shall be appointed minister of transportation;

Dr Hisham al-Khatib shall be appointed minister of energy and mineral wealth;

Dr 'Abdallah al-Nusur shall be appointed minister of planning;

Dr Hani al-Khasawinah shall be appointed minister of youth;

Issued from Basman Palace on 1 November 1984.

Ministers Farhi 'Ubayd, Dr Hisham al-Khatib, and Dr 'Abdallah al-Nusur were sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn, in the presence of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. Chief of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim and Court Minister Adnan Abu 'Awdah attended the swearing-in ceremony. Youth Minister Dr Hani al-Khasawinah will be sworn in after his return from Paris, where he has been serving as Jordanian ambassador to France.

Turkish Foreign Minister Departs 1 Nov

JN011539 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Amman, 1 Nov (PETRA) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu has stressed that relations between Jordan and Turkey are excellent, and that cooperation between the two countries is not only in their interest but also in the interest of the region's stability and prosperity. At the end of his short visit to Jordan and before leaving Queen 'Alia' International Airport, he made a statement to a PETRA correspondent. He said that he exchanged views with Tahir Hikmat, minister of transportation and acting foreign minister, about bilateral relations and other issues regarding the region. He added that the viewpoints concerning these issues were identical, and that the two sides decided to continue contacts in the future.

Regarding Turkey's position toward the Palestine question, Halefoglu said that Turkey has been concerned with the Palestine question from the beginning and that the Turkish Government's policy toward this issue has always been clear. He added: We are against any Israeli occupation of Arab territories by force, and we believe that Israel should withdraw from the Arab territories which were occupied in 1967. He also affirmed that Turkey is against Israel's settlement policy in the Arab lands and its plans to change the demographic features of the occupied territories. He also said: We in Turkey believe in the Palestinians' right to self-determination on their own soil; we also believe that a real peace can be achieved in the Middle East only through a just solution to the Palestine question.

Regarding the Iraq-Iran war, the Turkish foreign minister pointed out that Turkey is deeply concerned with the Iraq-Iran war, because Turkey has joint borders with both Iraq and Iran and has good relations with both of them. He added: Therefore, Turkey is exerting every possible effort to end the war, both unilaterally and within the framework of the Islamic conference.

Reportage on Visit of Syrian Vice President

Comments on Talks

NC011540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has concluded his talks with President Amin al-Jumayyil in the presence of Prime Minister Rashid Karami. Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and the minister of national education, [former] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, later joined the talks.

Following the working lunch, at the end of which the talks concluded, the following dialogue took place between Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and journalists:

[Begin recording] [Khaddam] I have reviewed with his excellency the president and His Excellency Prime Minister Karami all aspects of the situation in Lebanon in light of the views presented by the various Lebanese parties in order to transfer Lebanon from the current situation into one to which all the Lebanese aspire. The aim is to strengthen the general national stand in Lebanon to confront the (?Israeli occupation) and act to liberate the Lebanese territory occupied by the Israeli forces and to bolster the national accord march.

I can say, particularly in light of the contacts that have been made with all government officials, that there is a common determination by all officials to reach the goals that the Lebanese aspire to. We have discussed a number of issues that constitute common denominators, issues that will serve the common goals of all parties. I can say that this visit that His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad asked me to make will contribute to boosting the accord march and joint action and to strengthening the general national stand of the government officials. In light of the instructions given me by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, this visit contributed to reaching good results. I hope that [words indistinct] new regarding the internal situation in Lebanon in order to relieve everyone and (?abandon) violence. [Words indistinct] positive and serious steps on the path toward the cmmon goals.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Khaddam, you know that there are expected developments regarding the situation in southern Lebanon. Does Syria encourage the Lebanese Government and Lebanon to start military negotiations with Israel, which UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar called for yesterday to begin on Monday in Al-Naqurah?

[Khaddam] In fact, the Lebanese Government and the UN secretary general briefed us on the contacts the United Nations made to start military negotiations under UN auspices in order to reach [words indistinct] leading to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. Naturally, we agreed and conveyed our agreement to the UN secretary general and to the Lebanese Government, because the negotiations under UN auspices will, as we understand it, be under the aegis of the armistice committee. If these negotiations will lead to an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, without enabling Israel to impose conditions or make gains, this will be good and we all seek this. If the Israelis try to impose conditions or infringe upon Lebanon's sovereignty or make gains, we believe the Lebanese side will not permit such a thing. On the contrary, this issue will lead to unifying the general stand in Lebanon to support the national resistance in the south to enable it to place before the Israelis the only option — withdrawal.

[Correspondent] Mr Khaddam, can Lebanon begin these negotiations when as of this morning we hear that two putative Syrian allies are opposed even to sending the Lebanese Army to the Al-Awwali and Al-Damur. How would you explain this?

[Khaddam] You know that there are certain views on certain internal issues. During today's discussions we managed to reach conclusions [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] Mr Khaddam, is Syria ready to give Israel guarantees that it will not occupy the areas from which Israel will withdraw, guarantees that these areas will not be occupied by the Syrian forces or the fedayeen, who for instance, may infiltrate through Syrian lines?

[Khaddam] Syria is not ready either directly or indirectly or through mediation to give any guarantee, commitment, or stipulation to the Israelis or others. This issue has been decisively settled. We refused to give such a commitment in Syria. If any party wants to act through the Syrian lines, we will not prevent it. When negotiations took place to disengage the forces on the Golan Heights [words indistinct] well over 2 weeks because we refused to give such a commitment. What we rejected in Syria and on Syrian soil we will reject on Lebanese soil. It is not and will not be the responsibility of Syria to guarantee Israel's security, because Israel is an aggressive and usurper state in the region. Thus, it is not our duty or responsibility to guarantee its security. On the contrary, we will always support all national and pan-Arab struggles for the restoration of Arab national rights in Palestine and in occupied Arab territory.

[Question indistinct]

[Khaddam] President al-Jumayyil does not need an invitation. Contacts are continuing between him and His Excellency President [al-Asad] and Damascus [words indistinct]. Whenever President al-Jumayyil feels there is need for a meeting with President al-Asad, he can meet with him. Relations between Syria and Lebanon and between the two presidents [words indistinct].

[Correspondent] How would you illustrate the opposition's political and military [words indistinct] in Lebanon, which does not serve Syria's goals in helping Lebanon in the upcoming stage?

[Khaddam] I cannot say that the opposition in Lebanon has goals. There are no [words indistinct] a government of national unity. We must not forget the (?ordeal) that Lebanon has gone through and the past 10 years. There have been a civil war, killing, and negative developments, as well as a certain psychological atmosphere in all parties. We do not believe and it would not be logical if we imagine that the mere presence of these parties in the government will remove all these developments. Every party has its own views and we must respect these views. We must all hold objective discussions to unify these views. At one time, for instance, Walid Junblatt seems to have been opposed and at the

same or another time [former] President Sham'un seems to have opposed [words indistinct]. Every party has its own ideas. They are opposed when their ideas are not discussed or taken into consideration, and they give their support when their ideas are taken into consideration, and they will give more support when objective, positive, and constructive discussions lead to a common view. We are all seeking this.

Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri are national strugglers and hold views that we respect. I have also felt that President Amin al-Jumayyil respects these views and wants to discuss these issues in a spirit of reconciliation [words indistinct] with the aim of reaching an agreement. Walid Junblatt is not the only one to submit these views. Prime Minister Karami, [former] Prime Minister al-Huss, [former] President Sham'un, Brother Joseph al-Hashim, and Joseph Skaf and Minister [words indistinct] have also submitted their views.

[Question indistinct]

[Khaddam] I am not in Lebanon to place blame on who is responsible for the military escalation. All the parties are blaming each other. Walid Junblatt's statements hold the Army responsible and the Army Command holds the Progressive Socialist Party responsible for the escalation. We are not in a position to say who is responsible, but there is enough room for all parties to be responsible for safeguarding this country and its security and [words indistinct].

Khaddam Departs; Karami Comments

NC012039 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left the republican palace in Bikfayya at 2000 today following a long day of talks. Minister Joseph al-Hashim accompanied him to the Al-Dawwar area, while the president and the prime minister continued their meeting to assess the results of the talks held today in the presence of Khaddam. Following the meeting Prime Minister Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] We received his excellency, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and exchanged views on current problems and issues in Lebanon. These issues constitute the well-known differences. There has been agreement on solutions and ways to extricate the situation from the current stalemate. Today's meetings were useful and fruitful. We hope that these problems will be solved in the next few days.

[Unidentified correspondent] Has there been Syrian-Lebanese agreement regarding expected developments, particularly concerning the situation in southern Lebanon?

[Karami] I can affirm that there is complete coordination and cooperation between Lebanon and Syria on all issues.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Karami] God willing.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Karami] This was the subject of discussion. There has been agreement on the goals and ways to achieve them.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Karami] In principle, and as regards the details, there is agreement and understanding and the details will be drafted by the parties concerned, namely, the Military Council.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Karami] During the first Cabinet meeting a chief of staff will be appointed.

RFL on Khaddam's Talks

NC012308 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2245 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Informed sources have indicated that an agreement was reached during the talks with [Syrian Vice President] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to invite Ministers Birri and Junblatt to return to Beirut [to participate in the government]. The talks, furthermore, focused on the security situation in the mountain and the reopening of the coastal line. It has been decided that the security on this line will be handled by a mixed brigade made up of personnel from various Army brigades.

The sources added that there was complete agreement to allow the Lebanese Army a free hand in implementing the Cabinet's recent decisions on Beirut. The Lebanese Army is also expected to be deployed in Tripoli port.

The same sources said that the Syrian forces will intervene to close the illegal ports in the north should problems arise.

VOAL on Agreements Reached

NC020840 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Informed political sources have revealed that the 9-hour talks which Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held in the Bikfayya presidential summer residence were positive and fruitful. The sources explained that agreement was reached on a number of outstanding points in the political and security spheres. Executive measures and timetables were drafted for most of these points, and it is hoped that these will be implemented shortly.

These sources said these points deal with three main issues:

First, the south and the fears the regime has regarding possible developments and the practical ways to avert any negative developments.

Second, the political file and the points which have been and continue to be the subject of differences in views.

Third, implementation of Cabinet decisions regarding the closure of illegal ports and bringing the security situation in Greater Beirut under control.

The Voice of Arab Lebanon has learned that some of the most important points agreed upon were the reopening of the coastal road between the Al-Madfun and Al-Awwali bridges, the deployment of the Army along this road, the consolidation of the cease-fire and calm in the mountain and Iqlim al-Kharrub, the closure of the illegal ports, the Chamber of Deputies issue and the distribution of deputies among the various communities, and the question of the contract teachers.

Informed sources pointed out that Ministers Birri and Junblatt last night expressed approval in principle of what was agreed upon in the Bikfayya talks. It has been reported that Ministers Birri and Junblatt will attend the extraordinary Cabinet session tomorrow and that they will hold talks in Damascus today with Mr Khaddam before returning to Beirut.

Negotiations To Concern Security Arrangements

NC011757 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] A diplomatic source has affirmed that the military negotiations that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar called to start on Monday [5 November] between the Lebanese and Israeli delegations in An-Naqurah will be held under UN supervision and at the UN Observers Force Headquarters in An-Naqurah. This source pointed out that the Lebanese delegation will include military men. UN and Israeli military personnel will also attend.

The negotiations will only concern military security arrangements and not [words indistinct] to achieve the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the south, western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

A UN spokesman said that Lebanon and Israel have agreed to meet at the UN observers force headquarters in southern Lebanon in An-Naqurah, specifically, 5 km from the Lebanese-Israeli border. UN force officials have begun military contacts with Lebanon and Israel in preparation for the Monday talks.

Reportage on Factional Clashes in Beirut

Socialists, Palestinians Attack Army

NC011735 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Socialist gunmen directed artillery and rocket fire at Al-Jiyah and Harat B'asir in Iqlim al-Kharrub this morning. In the mountain areas, socialist and Palestinian gunmen attacked Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb from their positions in 'Aytat. Meanwhile, Kafr Shima was subjected to shelling from Al-Shuwayfat this afternoon.

We have been informed that the socialist attacks on Al-Jiyah and Harat B'asir have been violent since 1800.

Army, Phalangists Ignore Cease-Fire

NC011815 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The Army's artillery emplacements in 'Ayn Sa'adah opened fire at various villages in Iqlim al-Kharrub, particularly Barja, which received concentrated mortar and heavy-caliber artillery fire.

Barja is still receiving fire from 106-mm guns, heavy-caliber machine guns, and long-range artillery from Army emplacements in 'Ayn Sa'adah. A cease-fire was scheduled to go into effect at 1915, but the Army and the Phalangist militias failed to abide by it and resumed their shelling of Barja and some villages in Iqlim al-Kharrub.

Shaykh Dies After Shooting

NC020707 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Clashes in Iqlim al-Kharrub and the violations which took place on the mountain combat lines last night have stopped. However, a state of caution continues to prevail on the tense combat lines in the wake of the escalation witnessed by these areas yesterday. Bursts of sniper and machine gun fire are now being heard on Iqlim al-Kharrub's combat lines at present.

In another development, an unidentified person shot Shaykh Zuhayr Janin as he was leaving Salah al-Din Mosque in Al-Tariq al-Jadidah, seriously wounding him in the head. He was taken to Al-Maqasid Hospital for immediate surgery, however, he died.

In the Al-Bashurah and Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq areas of Beirut, some tension is still prevailing following the clashes which took place in these areas last night.

Amal, Sunnite Gunmen Clash

NC020642 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Western Beirut witnessed a tense night last night due to clashes between gunmen. The clashes raged between Amal and Sunnite gunmen and expanded at approximately 2000 to include the areas of Suq al-Balat and Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq up to the area surrounding the Commodore, Ba'labakk Road, [word indistinct] Shihab, Saqiyat al-Janzir, Al-Ramlah al-Bayda, and Bisharah al-Khuri Street up to Wadi Abu Jamil.

In Al-Bashurah there was an exchange of fire between Amal gunmen and members of the nationalist grouping which is headed by Samir Sabbagh.

Army Seizes Ammunition-Laden Car

NC021033 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The crossing points of Sodeco and Fu'ad Shihab bridge remain closed after Hezbollah gunmen kidnapped a citizen and

the Lebanese Army seized a Mercedes 200 car laden with ammunition coming from the western area of Beirut. The Army detained its driver after he attempted to escape. As a result, gunmen of various organizations fired rockets and opened bursts of machine gun fire at Lebanese Army positions.

Rockets Fired at Army

NC021118 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The Sodeco crossing point is being closed and opened depending on the disposition of the Junblatt and Hezbollah gunmen who have been firing rockets since this morning to prevent the Lebanese Army from deploying in An-Najmah Square to implement a Cabinet decision.

The latest information indicates that gunmen are directing rocket and machine gun fire at Army positions and residential areas in the eastern area of Beirut. The sound of exploding rockets is now being heard in the Sodeco area. The rockets are coming from the gunmen's positions in western Beirut.

One of the buildings in 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Inglizi Street was hit by RPG fire.

We have just received this report from the editorial room: The gunmen in the western area are still firing shells in the direction of residential areas and Lebanese Army positions in the eastern area. A number of shells have exploded over the Sodeco and Al-Siryan quarters. Explosions are continuing in the Al-Ashrafiyah area.

'Limited' Syrian-Palestinian Clash in Al-Biqa'

NC011244 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] In the area of Al-Biqa', the Syrian forces have surrounded the positions held by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] in Ta'labaya following the death of a Palestinian dissident in a limited clash with the Syrians. The Syrian forces confiscated trucks in R'it and forced the drivers to carry Syrian reinforcements to positions in Dayr al-Ghazal, Qusaya, R'it [as heard], and Al-Nabi Shit.

Groups loyal to Abu Musa have set up a weapons depot in the Al-Nabi Sbat valley. Among the weapons amassed there are Katyushas. The area has thus been rendered a military zone.

Walid Junblatt Interviewed by MONDAY MORNING

NC010819 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 29 Oct-4 Nov 84 pp 40-46

["Text" of interview with Walid Junblatt, minister of public works, transport, and tourism and Druze leader, by Noura Sakkaf — date and place not given]

[Text] [Sakkaf] Will you attend the cabinet meeting that the prime minister has convened to be held on Monday?

[Junblatt] I won't attend simply because I'm leaving on an important trip. I would like to attend cabinet meetings again, but we will have to find out what is the agenda. We agreed upon certain things in Switzerland and now we have formed committees to bury these proposals. We think that the president, and possibly the prime minister, are not serious about reforms. They are stalling on implementing decisions taken in Lausanne. This is why I have some reservations, big reservations.

[Sakkaf] Will you attend cabinet meetings after your return from your trip?

[Junblatt] Yes, if there is something to discuss. If the cabinet is only going to discuss trivial matters, I can rely on one of the ministers, such as Nabih Birri or Salim al-Huss, to be my spokesman. I trust them and I can depend on them.

[Sakkaf] Are you insisting that the cabinet discuss reforms?

[Junblatt] We agreed on what we considered to be minimal reforms; not all the reforms needed in Lebanon, but we did agree on specific reforms, and we should abide by this agreement. We have noticed that time is slipping by and nothing is being done to introduce these reforms.

[Sakkaf] What are some of the grievances that you and Minister Birri have listed for presentation to the cabinet?

[Junblatt] We fear that the foot-dragging will ultimately mean that this cabinet will end up being another Al-Wazzan cabinet. I am not ready and I will never accept to be part of this cabinet if it's going to be a new Al-Wazzan cabinet, providing a cover for President al-Jumayyil's plans, activities and political trends.

After all, he is now the sole representative of the Phalangist Party and, unfortunately, of the Christians. He controls the Christian area, in his own way and with his own methods, including force. He just expelled two veteran members of parliament, Edmond Rizq and Louis Abu-Sharaf. This means that nobody will dare challenge or oppose him.

[Sakkaf] Do you really think that Prime Minister Karami will play the same role as former Prime Minister al-Wazzan?

[Junblatt] I wouldn't like to see Prime Minister Karami ending up being a new Al-Wazzan. That would be fateful. It would be a big mistake. I hope that will never happen.

[Sakkaf] If agreement is reached on reconvening the cabinet conclaves to discuss reforms, will you attend?

[Junblatt] Yes, but we have basic issues, hot issues, to discuss. These include the question of representation in parliament, which is important, politically speaking. We want a parliament representative of all factions and communities, and this is why we have insisted on raising the parliament membership to 140 deputies. This may be a large number, but it is important that all communities be fairly represented. Furthermore, it would be better not to pay the MP's any salaries. That would also be much more economic. We also have the army issue. We don't trust the leadership of the army because it is totally under the control of

President Amin al-Jumayyil and his aides, such as Simon Qassis. We want a national army.

[Sakkaf] Are the grievances about the army and the delay in tackling the reform issues the reason for the boycott (of cabinet meetings)?

[Junblatt] They are stalling and foot-dragging. The last time we met in Bikfayya the climate on the outside was good, it was a sunny day, but inside it was cloudy. President al-Jummayil was angry and furious and he used his bodyguard, Minister Joseph al-Hashim, as his spokesman. Even then, he couldn't refrain from being angry and shouting; he was just shouting. Well, I can't work in such a case. Such an atmosphere is not conducive to work.

[Sakkaf] If none of your conditions are met, will you and your allies resign from the government?

[Junblatt] Yes. Personally, I'll resign from the government if it's going to end up being something like the Al-Wazzan cabinet. I'll not participate, I will not be one of the godfathers of a new Al-Wazzan cabinet. No, not at all.

[Sakkaf] What about your allies?

[Junblatt] They'll decide for themselves. I don't decide for them.

[Sakkaf] In the event that political negotiations stop or fail, do you think that fighting will resume?

[Junblatt] I hope not. I just hope not. However, judging from the new military budget that I was unable to reduce, it seems like President Amin al-Jumayyil's position has not changed. He is willing to reconquer the liberated areas and liquidate them, if he possibly can.

He wants to increase the purchase of arms and ammunition. Against whom is he intending to fight? Against the Syrians? No. Against the Israelis? No. It is against us. He said: "I want to go to the south, but if you don't give me arms and weapons, I can't go to the south." We all know better than anybody else that security arrangements (in Lebanon) are not a purely Lebanese issue. This is an issue to be disussed on regional and international levels. The key factor in security arrangements for Israel is Damascus, not Lebanon. It is not the Lebanese Army that will prevent the Palestinians or others from going to the south, if they want to.

[Sakkaf] Is the honor code dead?

[Junblatt] It was born dead.

[Sakkaf] How are your personal relations with President al-Jumayyil? Are you still willing to have dinner with him?

[Junblatt] There's no personal animosity between us, but it seems he is getting a little nervous. He does not accept being criticised and he is adopting a kind of undemocratic approach to matters, which is bad. He should know that he is ruling a country with several parties and communities and he can't impose his will on the country as he has on, let's say, unfortunately, the Christians.

[Sakkaf] Is the defeat of the former speaker and the victory of Speaker al-Husayni a victory for you and your allies?

[Junblatt] It's a kind of a new step. Yes, it is a new step that could lead to much more of a nationalistic trend in the so-called Parliament of Lebanon, which, in my opinion, is not representative of the people at all. Nevertheless, it is still an existing, surviving institution. We'll see what will happen.

[Sakkaf] What prompted the formation of the National Democratic Front? Why are some parties, like the Amal Movement and the Communist Action Party, not in it?

[Junblatt] We had been coordinating together as parties, so we decided to "officialize" our relations. We realized from the onset that the Amal Movement would find it difficult, for certain reasons, to officially join in with us, but we are fighting in the same trench with the Amal Movement. There is no problem. I would have liked to have Muhsin Ibrahim and the Communist Action Party with us, but that could not be worked out for regional reasons. Muhsin Ibrahim is a great friend and a great patriot.

[Sakkaf] How are your relations with Minister Birri?

[Junblatt] No problems at all, no problems at all.

[Sakkaf] Do you think that the recent changes in the leadership of the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces will lead to policy changes?

[Junblatt] No changes. Now we can say that the Lebanese Forces and the Phalangist Party are under one control, the control of President Amin al-Jumayyil. He is the one who dictates everything. From now on we cannot really say that there are a variety of opinions in the eastern sector of Beirut or Lebanon. There's really only one opinion, the opinion of President Amin al-Jumayyil. He decides on the basis of regional or international circumstances.

[Sakkaf] What are the implications of this new situation?

[Junblatt] As I have repeatedly declared, the Phalangists took power through the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. They are still in power, and now their spokesman is President Amin al-Jumayyil. This is no secret, it is a well known fact.

[Sakkaf] Do you consider the ousting of MP's Edmond Rizq and Louis Abu-Sharaf from the Phalangist Party to be a sign of change?

[Junblatt] This means that anybody who dares to challenge the (party) decisions or wants to have his own opinion will not be accepted. Edmond Rizq and Louis Abu-Sharaf were well-known Phalangists, but it seems like they were no longer acceptable. The only will and rule is the rule of the president; in the party, the government and in Lebanon, it is President Amin al-Jumayyil.

[Sakkaf] People wonder why the P.S.P. does not push all the way to the Al-Awwali River. Is there a tacit agreement with the Lebanese Forces in Iqlim al-Kharrub?

[Junblatt] There will never be an agreement with the Lebanese Forces, ever, or with the Phalangists, because there's no difference at all between the two. We cannot push to the Al-Awwali, we cannot go to Sidon, because of the fact that there are certain "red lines" imposed on us by the Israelis. This is also a well-known fact. We can't fight everybody at the same time.

[Sakkaf] What is the reason for the deteriorating situation in the mountains and Iqlim al-Kharrub?

[Junblatt] President Amin al-Jumayyil uses Iqlim al-Kharrub and Suq al-Gharb to apply pressure on us. When we do not accept his conditions, he steps up the military pressure, especially around Suq al-Gharb and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

[Sakkaf] Will you yield to this pressure?

[Junblatt] No, not at all. I will respond by fighting back.

[Sakkaf] When will you allow the security plan to be implemented in the mountain area?

[Junblatt] Why should there be a security plan in the mountains? If there is a need for a security plan, maybe it's in the south. The road to the south can be open whenever they want to open it; I mean, whenever President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese Forces are willing to open the road to the south, or the section extending from Al-Damur to Sidon.

I don't think we need a security plan in the mountains for the time being, because the army would be ineffective, just as it is in the eastern sector of Lebanon right now. Later on, if there is a compromise, a true compromise, in Lebanon, we may think of giving up our arms. But not now, it's too early.

[Sakkaf] Is it a question of the army being ineffective, or is it that you don't trust the army?

[Junblatt] I wouldn't ever accept having a Phalangist-controlled army coming to West Beirut or to the mountains. Never.

[Sakkaf] Do you think this has anything to do with the delay in the appointment of a new chief of staff?

[Junblatt] Everything is delayed nowadays, everything. We haven't even mentioned the appointment of a new chief of staff which is bad for us because, for the past three years, in one way or the other, no more Druze are being allowed to go into the army as officers or soldiers, and the post of chief of staff is a very important position.

[Sakkaf] Who would you nominate for this post?

[Junblatt] I have a candidate, but I will not tell you his name now. The appointment is not a purely technical affair, it is also a political question. Anyway, we'll see.

[Sakkaf] What is your comment on reports carried by Phalangist and Israeli news media that Palestinian fighters have been returning to Lebanon and infiltrating into the south through Druze-controlled areas?

[Junblatt] Let the Israelis and the Phalangists understand that I'm not a police force or a national guard for their interests, and, at the same time, I will not be a police force in my own area against the national resistance movement. Of course, the Palestinian presence in some areas could embarrass everybody, so I advise the Palestinians not to go back to some of their old sanctuaries in Iqlim al-Kharrub or in Beirut. I am neither willing nor able to prevent the national resistance from operating. I am not able because there are so many roads that lead to the south.

[Sakkaf] Do you expect a sudden Israeli withdrawal from the south and a repetition of what happened in the mountain area last year?

[Junblatt] I really have no idea. I just have no idea whatsoever.

[Sakkaf] How do you view Israel's plan to use the Lahd militia as a "buffer force" in the border strip between Israel and Lebanon?

[Junblatt] I don't think the Lahd militia can do anything credible. They should think of something else. It would probably be better to think about the United Nations forces.

[Sakkaf] Would you approve direct negotiations between Israeli and Lebanese military officers over security arrangements in the south?

[Junblatt] Yes, within the truce agreement. Yes.

[Sakkaf] How would you evaluate your present relations with Syria?

[Junblatt] Our relations are good. We have no problems. Relations have always been good and they always will be good. We have no problems at all.

[Sakkaf] Will they always support you and your positions inside the cabinet and on the outside?

[Junblatt] They support me. Of course, they sometimes have their own opinions. We discuss the issues and we find out what is best, what is more convenient. There is always a dialogue between the Syrians and me. We meet three or four times a week, on the average. It is a must for us to always deal with the Syrians.

[Sakkaf] Will you be going to Syria in the next few days? If so, will your visit have any specific objective?

[Junblatt] My visits are always undertaken to consult with Syrian leaders: with (Vice President) Khaddam or with (Chief of Staff) Al-Shihabi. I hope to be soon seeing President Hafiz al-Asad.

[Sakkaf] Is your coming visit to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria an official visit?

[Junblatt] No, it is a party-level visit.

[Sakkaf] What repercussions do you think the Jordanian-Egyptian reconciliation will have on Lebanon and the region?

[Junblatt] It will increase the tension in Lebanon, and will divide the Arab world more and more. This will probably not help the cause of stability in Lebanon or in the region.

[Sakkaf] You visit Jordan frequently.

[Junblatt] Well, I have my family there, and, of course, I have had the benefit of the hospitality of King Husayn, for which I thank him.

However, because of this new step, I might be obliged to move out of Jordan. I will see. I will have to study this question.

[Sakkaf] What can be done about the deteriorating security situation in West Beirut, with the upsurge in car thefts, robberies, occupation of houses and the like? Who is behind this crime wave?

[Junblatt] I don't think that anything can be done about it. I mean we can reduce some incidents, such as car thefts and bombings. But, at the same time, we have to understand that the people of West Beirut and other places, but especially West Beirut, are going to be faced with serious and terrible economic and social crises. People are actually becoming poorer and poorer, so they need the money, legally or illegally.

We have to understand this phenomenon. The so-called rise of the dollar is a well-planned mechanism triggered by certain banks, eastern banks, Phalangist banks, by a certain "clique" that is perfectly willing to steal the money of the poor and middle-class people. If the economic situation does not improve, I don't think we'll be able to achieve anything in West Beirut.

[Sakkaf] What about the wave of religious fanaticism that is sweeping all Lebanon, especially West Beirut?

[Junblatt] When you have Maronite fanaticism, Christian fanaticism, you have to expect to also have Moslem fanaticism, like Hezbollah and others. It's a reaction.

[Sakkaf] In an unpublished interview with *MONDAY MORNING* you said there were plots to assassinate you, Minister Birri and Minister al-Huss. Who do you think is behind such plots?

[Junblatt] The so-called secret services of the government, which have quite substantial sums of money. Of course now, with the Phalangists and their Lebanese forces now in the government, anybody who tries to oppose them will be liquidated. I have not changed my mind. I still believe that Simon Qassis, or George Qassis, or Louis Qassis, or Elie Hubaygah are responsible for this, not to say more.

[Sakkaf] What ever happened to the agreement on the return of displaced Christian people to the mountains? [Junblatt] Nothing. The whole deal has been postponed, and it will ultimately collapse, or it's going to be sabotaged by President Amin al-Jumayyil's policy. We want to deal with the people of the Al-Shuf, including former President Sham'un. President al-Jumayyil wants to get the Christians back to the mountains through one of his bodyguards, called Joseph al-Hashim. We will not accept it.

[Sakkaf] Will former President Sham'un visit you again here in Al-Mukhtarah?

[Junblatt] I hope so. Ahlan wa sahlan [He is welcome]. He can visit whenever he wants to. He is a nice person.

[Sakkaf] What has the civil administration in the mountains accomplished so far?

[Junblatt] It has probably done best in the field of security. We are trying to do our best to maintain security. Economically, the area is very poor. There's nothing of economic importance. I have tried to take advantage of my post as Minister of Public Works, and I think I have done my best, but our area is very poor.

I have tried to get as many projects going as possible in all areas. In the south this has been difficult because of the conditions prevailing under the Israeli occupation. The eastern sector of Lebanon has a lot, but that's all right. I didn't stop any projects anywhere. In the Al-Biqa', the situation was bad, and the same was true for Tripoli, because of the presence of bad contractors. Among them was a certain Ahdab Ahdab, who was fined by my father in 1965 when he was minister of public works, but still has a bad reputation. Nothing has changed.

[Sakkaf] In the event that a formula for a new Lebanon is agreed upon, and it succeeds, will you dismantle the civil administration?

[Junblatt] Why should I? It's a committee, a working committee that groups together active elements from the whole mountain area. At any time it can cooperate with the new government and it can be part of the new administration.

[Sakkaf] Is the Khaldah port the stepping stone to a Druze canton?

[Junblatt] No. There won't ever be a Druze canton for a number of political and demographic reasons. We are part of Lebanon, and part of the Islamic world. If this port will operate, we will try to give everybody their share: Sunnites, Druze and Shi'ites, everybody. We have no restraint on anybody using the port.

[Sakkaf] You mentioned in a previous interview that you were building the Khaldah port because you needed funds. Has the government given you any funds?

[Junblatt] No. I need the money because I have to help hundreds of families. These are families of people who were killed or who were massacred in the bloody war. We are facing severe economic conditions and we have nothing to produce at all. We can't live off our olive and apple trees. That won't work.

[Sakkaf] Can't you, in your capacity as minister of transportation, close down illegal ports?

[Junblatt] This is a political issue, not a technical one. I have nothing to do with the east, I cannot control anything there, and I don't want to control.

Let them go to hell.

[Sakkaf] The mountain area is virtually in shambles. How will you rebuild it? Where will the funds come from?

[Junblatt] I don't know. I have no idea. We have been told that the Council of Development and Reconstruction might be able to do something, if it has the money. I hope so, and I hope they are serious about this issue. I have no idea.

[Sakkaf] Part of the argument in the cabinet was over the budget. What exactly do you oppose in the 1985 budget?

[Junblatt] The military budget and the budgets of the ministries. In all countries, or in at least most of them, things are different, and countries are trying to reduce budgets. The Israelis, for example, are trying to reduce the budget, although they have efficient industry and agriculture. They want to cut down on their budget for economic considerations. We in Lebanon are increasing our budget in all fields, and we are spending money like mad without having any income at all. This is bound to lead us to disaster, to a terrible economic disaster. We don't want, for example, the Council of Sami Marun. This is a technical, political and economic problem. Why did Rashid Karami agree to increase his budget? Ask Rashid Karami.

[Sakkaf] How do you feel when you are referred to as a warlord and a feudal lord?

[Junblatt] Well, I may be a warlord, but I am not a feudal lord any more.

[Sakkaf] Are you optimistic about the future? Can you promise the Lebanese some kind of peace in the near future?

[Junblatt] I would like to be optimistic, but I don't see how it is possible for us to have any peace within the actual system, which is under the Phalangist leadership of Lebanon. It's just very difficult, not to say impossible.

[Sakkaf] Would you like to add anything?

[Junblatt] No.

Khaddam Makes Statement, Returns to Damascus

JN020633 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus last night at the end of a short visit to Lebanon during which he met with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami. In a statement at the end of the visit, Khaddam said: We discussed all aspects of the situation in Lebanon with the Lebanese president and the prime minister, in light of the views presented by the various parties and the trends in which Syria believes, to extricate Lebanon from the current situation and position it in one to which all the Lebanese aspire. The aim is to strengthen the general national course in Lebanon to confront the Israeli occupation, to act to liberate the Lebanese territory occupied by the Israeli forces, and to bolster the national accord march.

Khaddam added: I can say, particularly in light of the contacts held with all government parties, that everyone has a common determination to reach the goals to which the Lebanese aspire. We have discussed a number of issues which constitute common denominators and which will serve any general trend by all the parties.

Khaddam added: This visit that His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad asked me to make, is to contribute toward boosting the accord march and joint action, and to strengthen the general national stand of the government parties.

Khaddam said: I can say that in light of this visit and in light of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad's instructions, good results were achieved. I hope that the new stage in the internal situation in Lebanon will relieve everyone and that everyone will feel that they have achieved positive, new, and good steps on the path toward their common goals.

Further on Khaddam Statement

JN020902 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, 2 Nov (SANA) — In a statement yesterday, at the end of his visit to Lebanon and his talks with the Lebanese officials, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam affirmed that Syria refuses to give any guarantees to the Israelis or anyone else. In this statement, published by the newspapers here today, Khaddam also affirmed that Syria will continue to support every national [watani] and pan-Arab [qawmi] struggle to regain Arab rights. Khaddam added: We cannot accept on Lebanese territory what we have rejected on Syrian territory.

Khaddam continued: We have reached good results to promote the process of accord and to strengthen the general national stand in Lebanon.

Khaddam said: President Hafiz al-Asad has sent me on this visit to help promote the process of accord and to strengthen the national stand to confront the occupation and to liberate the land from Israeli occupation.

Khaddam affirmed that there is a common determination by everyone to acheive the objectives cherished by the Lebanese. He said that the discussion centered on several issues that constitute common denominators for any general trend by all the parties. Khaddam added: The Lebanese Government and the secretary general of the United Nations have informed us of all the contacts made by the United Nations to begin military talks under UN auspices to reach military arrangements that would lead to the Israeli forces' withdrawal from the Lebanese territories. We have agreed of course, and we have conveyed our agreement to the secretary general of the United Nations and also to the Lebanese Government. We understand that these negotiations will take place under the UN flag and within the framework of the Mixed Armistice Commission. If these negotiations lead to the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon without the Israelis achieving any gains or imposing any conditions, then well and good, because we are all working toward this objective.

Khaddam continued: However, if the Israelis try to impose any conditions, prejudice Lebanon's sovereignty, or achieve any gains, then we believe that the Lebanese side would deprive them of this opportunity. In fact, such a development would unify the general Lebanese stand behind the national resistance in the south until the resistance succeeds in placing the Israelis before the only choice, withdrawal.

Khaddam affirmed: Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri are patriotic strugglers who hold viewpoints we respect. We must also not forget that President al-Jumayyil respects all viewpoints and wants to discuss all issues in a harmonious, reconciliatory spirit to reach an agreement.

Views on Problems Facing 'New Lebanon'

Damascus on Lebanon's Salvation

JN011338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The common conviction among the Lebanese is that the policy statement of the national unity government constitutes formula for establishing the new Lebanon. This came after it was agreed that the formula of the national charter had become obsolete, after not one of the disputing parties was able to achieve victory over the other disputing parties. They resorted to dialogue because it is a safer way to reestablish Lebanon.

Everyone still recalls that Syria, from the time it embarked on its positive initiative toward Lebanon in response to a call by the legitimate authority and the Lebanese people, was concerned about entrenching principles which governed its initiative and constituted the basis for it — foremost, stopping the fighting among the brothers, because only by marching with all its parties can Lebanon remove from everyone the feelings of persecution and injustice.

Syria was also concerned about asserting that it would not replace any party. However, it did assert that it would help the

Lebanese overcome their differences and provide the suitable circumstances to establish common ground for the sake of Lebanon's future. Thus, the desire for political dialogue triumphed over the dialogue of guns among the disputing parties. The reconciliation march began, especially after the Lebanese rule adopted the Arab Syrian option, after all other options failed, including the U.S. and Israeli options, which were two sides of the same coin and which aimed at entrenching the Israeli occupation and imposing U.S. hegemony over the entire region. The government's policy statement crowned the adoption of the Syrian option and adopted the will of dialogue, especially as it stemmed from three main principles — achieving security, beginning political reform, and liberating the south.

Although implementation of the policy statement is slow, in view of the inherent and objective circumstances, including the fact that it is very difficult to overcome the tragedies of 10 years of bloody fighting, we must admit that the Lebanese Government has made up its mind and has begun a serious march toward achieving what came in the policy statement and the resolutions reached by the ministerial conclaves. Although the past week witnessed security tension, accompanied by the indiscriminate shelling of Beirut and the mountain areas, it was followed by a wave of condemnation and confrontation and by loud voices saying that a continuation of the fighting is no longer acceptable and asserting that the desire for political dialogue must triumph over the dialogue of guns. This indicates that the stage of fighting has gone, and that the salvation march must proceed with speed, but without haste. It must be based on the policy statement agreed on by everyone and that stressed that security must be accompanied by reform to reach liberation. This basis is the only guarantee for continuing the salvation march toward Lebanese accord.

AL-BA'TH Calls for Unity

JN020758 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 2 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] In the "With the Event" column, *AL-BA'TH* says: Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to fraternal Lebanon took place while the imperialist-Zionist onslaught is escalating against the Arab region in general, and against Lebanon in particular, in an effort to abort the victories the fraternal country has scored, thanks to its sincere cooperation with Arab Syria and to the cohesion of the people's forces in confronting the Zionist occupation and imperialist designs. These victories have been embodied in the NATO forces' defeat, the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, and the Zionist enemy's admission of the huge losses it has sustained as a result of the Lebanese national resistance operations in occupied southern Lebanon.

AL-BA'TH adds: To void these victories, the United States and Israel seek to sow discord and to fabricate events to drive a wedge among the Lebanese and to expand and perpetuate the crisis in a manner that would serve their conspiratorial objectives and schemes. If Lebanon has so far overcome many obstacles on the road to rebuilding a unified Lebanon and has succeeded in building bridges between the various parties to restore normal life to fraternal Lebanon, it will never allow enemy forces to infiltrate again or to disrupt the situation and bring Lebanon a few steps back. Syria will not allow the situation to return to what it was, will not allow the victories scored to be relinquished, and will continue to help the Lebanese brothers in a manner that will safeguard the progress of the security march in the fraternal country and entrench the march of salvation and the liberation of the land from the Israeli enemy. These are the common denominators uniting the Lebanese, around which all sincere parties in Lebanon are supposed to rally.

AL-THAWRAH on Syrian Support

JN020939 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Damascus, 2 Nov (SANA) — *AL-THAWRAH* today says that Syria's role in Lebanon stems from a firm and principled stand based on extricating the fraternal country from its crisis, bolstering the national accord march among its sons in a manner that would safeguard Lebanon's unity, independence, and Arab affiliation, and offering all forms of assistance to liberate Lebanese territory from Israeli occupation.

Under the headline "Lebanon and How To Confront the Israeli Conspiracies and Maneuvers" the paper says that the fraternal and pan-Arab Syrian role has succeeded in scoring great achievements in the interest of Lebanon and its people, such as stopping the shedding of Lebanese blood, and the initiation of a wise and objective dialogue among the various Lebanese sons and factions instead of a dialogue with rifles and fighting.

The paper adds: The solid achievements scored are based on the important pan-Arab victory of abrogating the 17 May agreement and closing the doors to Israeli hegemony over Lebanon. Therefore, pursuing this course will constitute the best and most effective guarantee for developing the accord to confront the Israeli enemy politically and militarily and force it to withdraw from Lebanese territory without any preconditions.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying that Lebanon whose sons are in agreement on the need to secure their country's national and pan-Arab interests is the one that will be capable of imposing on the Israeli enemy the withdrawal from southern Lebanon through the Lebanese people's sound stands and through the escalation of the operations carried out by Lebanese national resistance men. On its part, Syria will spare no effort and will offer all possible assistance to enable the Lebanese brothers to overcome the crisis and the tribulation they are experiencing.

Briefs

New Governors Sworn In — The follwoing new governors today took the constitutional oath before President Hafiz al-Asad: Dr 'Aziz Saqr, governor of Latakia; Zayd Hassun, governor of Idlib; Mahmud Nuri Gillu, governor of Hims; and Nadim 'Akkash, governor of Dayr al-Zawr. After taking the oath, the president received them, gave them instructions, and wished them success in their duties. [Text] [*Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 1 Nov 84 JN*]

Preparations for Lebanon Talks Proceed

Talks To Begin 5 Nov

TA021126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] UNIFIL Spokesman [title as heard] Timor Goksel told our reporter in the north Vivian Royston the talks between representatives of the Lebanese and Israel Army are scheduled to begin at 1000 on Monday. Goksel said the Lebanese would be deciding on their representatives at a special Cabinet meeting tomorrow morning.

Peres, Murphy Talk

TA011649 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The meeting in Jerusalem between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy ended a few minutes ago. Here is our correspondent Sha'ul Stav with an update:

A few minutes ago Richard Murphy and his entourage left the prime minister's office. Murphy said very little. He again expressed satisfaction about the decision to hold direct military talks between Lebanon and Israel in Al-Naqurah. Murphy said that in the meeting in the prime minister's office, the bilateral issues on the agenda were reviewed.

It should be noted that the two delegations are very large. Attending on behalf of Israel were the prime minister; Minister 'Ezer Weizman; Avraham Tamir, director general of the prime minister's office; Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche; Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in southern Lebanon, and chief of IDF Intelligence Branch Major General Ehud Baraq. Richard Murphy refused to say whether he is planning to travel to Damascus or whether he will continue negotiations in Israel. It appears that Jerusalem and Washington — which is represented here by Murphy — are willing to give an initial opportunity to the military talks which will be held in Al-Naqurah.

Further on Peres-Murphy Meeting

TA011745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres met with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy in Jerusalem this evening and presented to him Israel's conception of an arrangement in Lebanon. The plan includes a UN force deployment and reliance on the Lebanese Army [as heard] as one of the components in the territories which the IDF will evacuate. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the assessment raised in the meeting was that this time the Syrians had given their blessing to the talks between the officers of the IDF and the Lebanese Army, and therefore there is a chance that the move will succeed.

Intelligence Chief Major General Ehud Baraq and the coordinator of activities in Lebanon, Uri Lubrani, reviewed events in Lebanon and the Syrians' intentions there.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the U.S. assistant secretary of state will leave for Damascus tomorrow and will return to Israel in the middle of next week.

As for the leadership of the Israeli team to the military talks with Lebanon, it was reported that there are two candidates for this position, a major general and a brigadier general. The appointment will be made after the identity of the head of the Lebanese delegation is learned. The talks over the previous agreement with Lebanon were headed by Major General Menahem 'Eynan, the head of the IDF General Staff's Planning Branch.

No Peres, Mubarak Meeting

TA020544 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The United States believes that the chances of Prime Minister Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak meeting in the near future are nil. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy said this in his talks in Jerusalem on behalf of Under Secretary of State Armacost who met with the Egyptian president and with Egyptian Administration leaders in Cairo. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the Egyptians explained that their top priority is strengthening relations with Jordan and Iraq. At the same time, Murphy estimates that relations between Israel and Egypt will not worsen.

Talks' Prospects Viewed

TA011240 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Israel does not yet know what the Lebanese Government can contribute to the talks on the IDF withdrawal, or what the Lebanese Army can propose to promote such an arrangement. Reference is to a weak government which depends on Syria and to an army which has recently raised an absurd proposal to send two divisions from Beirut to the south by sea, because this army is incapable of opening the coastal road which has been closed for several months. However, the defense establishment says: Let the representatives of the Lebanese Army come and raise their proposals and let us hear how they want to participate in the arrangement or contribute to it. The defense establishment hopes that the Lebanese Army will act in the framework of the IDF redeployment plan, and that the Lebanese Government will not try to foil the Israeli plans.

Israel intends to reach an understanding with the Syrians enabling an increased UNIFIL deployment in the northernmost strip facing the Syrian forces, mainly in the Al-Biqa'. These forces will be stationed between the Syrians and the terrorists on the one hand, and the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] on the other. The ASL will deploy in the area evacuated by the IDF and will ensure daily security, while aware of the fact that the IDF reserves the right to return to the area at any time to help the ASL deal with crisis situations, or if it emerges that the terrorists have returned to set up a base in one of the sectors. If this plan is implemented, UNIFIL will have an important role to play. The fact that the talks with the Lebanese officers, scheduled for 5

November, will be held in the presence of the United Nations in Al-Naqurah gives substance to this.

In spite of the fact that the United States is not participating in the Al-Naqurah talks, Defense Minister Rabin reviewed the moves with Richard Murphy and updated him on the talks which will be held on 5 November. Rabin said that it is necessary to ensure that the talks are substantive and that the parties reach conclusions quickly. As may be recalled, the talks which led to the agreement with Lebanon on 17 May went on at length, and in the end the agreement was unilaterally abrogated. Rabin also said that Israel will not concede on matters important to it. The makeup of the Israeli team has not yet been decided, and the security establishment is waiting for the list of Lebanese officers to be forwarded by the United Nations. However, the Israeli delegation will probably be headed by a major general.

Lahd Army Must Be Part of Arrangement

TA021213 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Nov 84 p 1, 11

[Yosef Walter, Shefi Gabay, and Refa'el Mann report]

[Excerpt] As its main condition in the official negotiations between the Israel and Lebanese officers scheduled to begin on 5 November under UNIFIL auspices, Israel will insist that the IDF will only execute a complete withdrawal from southern Lebanon in return for Lebanese agreement to the establishment of two security strips between the Al-Awwali River and the Israeli border: the northern strip will be secured by an increased deployment of UNIFIL forces; the southern strip will be secured by the deployment of the army of southern Lebanon, which will be recognized by the Karami government as a legitimate force in the area.

Senior security sources yesterday voiced optimism over the possibility of reaching arrangements with Lebanon which will enable an IDF withdrawal. However, differences of opinion may erupt during the talks, especially on the issue of the army of southern Lebanon. Israel, the sources said, will not give in on this issue, and will insist that the army of southern Lebanon form one of the two security elements included in the arrangement.

As far as Israel is concerned, Beirut may call the army of southern Lebanon the "territorial brigade" or any other name. In the future, the army of General Lahd may be incorporated in the Lebanese Army. Until that time, Israel will continue to maintain its ties with this body, train the southern Lebanese soldiers, and pay part of their salaries.

118 Lahd Army Soldiers Finish Basic Training

TA021209 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Nov 84 p 2

[Menahem Horowitz report from the north]

[Text] One hundred and eighteen army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldiers, many of them Shi'ites, finished a new basic training course in southern Lebanon yesterday. The soldiers will soon be stationed in areas controlled by the ASL.

Morning Editorials View Outlook for Talks

TA020949 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 2 Nov 84

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *HAMODI'A* says that if the talks between the Israeli and Lebanese military representatives are indeed crowned with success, this will primarily be thanks to Israeli concessions made even prior to any deliberations. This is also the reason for the prevailing feeling that this time Syria also agrees, albeit tacitly, to the new move, since Syria has in fact achieved what it wanted all along — namely, that the withdrawal talks be devoid of any political elements and concentrate solely on the military aspect, with the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon being an intrinsic precondition. The truth is that under such conditions, Israel could have reached a settlement, even with Syrian consent, as far back as 2 years ago. An agreement based on meeting Israel's security demands is tantamount to Israel's climbing down from the limb it went out on in pursuing plans which proved to be illusions and hopes which were totally shattered. The current approach is totally realistic in itsintention of trying to secure the possible, without waiting for some future time when different circumstances might allow for greater gains. The paper adds that the sole true cause of the Lebanese war was the issue of safeguarding Israel's settlements. If this minimum goal is guaranteed, one should not make light of the minimal agreement which is surfacing now.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that the official UN announcement on the opening of negotiations between Israeli and Lebanese officers should be considered good tidings. After all, this is a real, initial step toward implementing the withdrawal from Lebanon and ending the miserable war. It is to be hoped that the negotiating parties will not waste time in formal discussions but will immediately begin practical negotiations. There is no doubt that a dispute will arise over some issues, such as the deployment and status of the army of southern Lebanon. Israel wants to view this army as a vital component for the security arrangements, while the Beirut government does not recognize it, but cannot suggest a replacement. Claims that the Lebanese Army can assume responsibility for security in southern Lebanon have no clear evidence in reality; the Lebanese Army can hardly control Beirut. Now that Israel has given up its political demands, the Beirut government must show the flexibility necessary to render an agreement on an IDF withdrawal possible. This is the first stage, since we should still tackle Syria, which holds the key for a final, comprehensive settlement.

HATZOFE says that the opening of the talks between the representatives of the IDF and the Lebanese Army indicates some progress in the direction of achieving a settlement in Lebanon. However, one should be wary of reaching optimistic conclusions on the time frame for achieving such a settlement. A great deal of effort will still be needed to reach arrangements which will guarantee the security of the Galilee's Jewish settlements and prevent the terrorists' return to the areas evacuated by the IDF. The opening of the talks should therefore be considered the beginning of a process, but we still have a long way to go before a settlement is achieved.

Abu Nadir: Lebanese Forces To Aid Withdrawal

TA011712 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Nov 84 p 11

[Gay Bekhor report]

[Text] The new leader of the "Lebanese Forces" (the Phalangist army), Dr Fu'ad abu Nadir, announced that his organization intends to help Israel withdraw from Lebanon as smoothly as possible. "I am aware of the fact that the withdrawal from Lebanon is an urgent matter for Israel," the leader of the Christian Phalangist military arm said. "I also understand that Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is an irrevocable decision." Fu'ad abu Nadir rejected outright rumors in Beirut that he is pro-Syrian: "The interpretation to the effect that we have suddenly become sympathetic to Syria is senseless. I have fought against the Syrians for the last 9 years. I do not agree with Syria's policy and therefore, I cannot suddenly become pro-Syrian."

In the interview Abu Nadir granted to the correspondent of *IGERET MILEVANON* , which is published in Israel, he attacked the Lebanese Government which refuses to cooperate with Israel. "The Lebanese Government which is so busy with Syria is totally oblivious about another vital element present on Lebanese territory and which is as important as Syria: I am referring to Israel." In the interview, the leader of the "Lebanese Forces" rejected the possibility of a parallel Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon. "The Syrians do not show any intention of withdrawing in the near future," he said. Abu Nadir took care to praise the "achievements" of his predecessor, Fadi Afram, who, according to assessments, was dismissed because of his pro-Israeli policy.

These remarks by Abu Nadir were received with satisfaction in Israel. It was first feared that he would totally sever relations between his organization and Israel.

Shamir Queries Murphy on Syrian Approval

TA020540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Richard Murphy will apparently leave for Damascus over the weekend to continue to examine the positions regarding a settlement in Lebanon. In his talk with Murphy, the foreign minister complained that also in the previous negotiations with Lebanon, the United States had hinted to Israel that Syria supports Lebanon's stance favoring a dialogue with Israel. Minister Shamir wanted to know the basis for the current U.S. optimism that Lebanon is starting the military negotiations with Syria's blessing.

Arabic Broadcast on Khaddam's View of Guarantees

JN020845 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 2 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syrian Guarantees," the newspaper *AL-ANBA'* comments on Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's [title as heard] statement that his country will not give Israel any direct or indirect guarantees that Syrian or Palestinian forces will not advance into the areas from which Israel withdraws, since Syria did not give such guarantees in the agreements it previously concluded with Israel. The paper says: Israel considers these statements as essentially for local consumption and stemming from the Syrian regime's concern to appear intransigent and rejecting. All of this is of no value as long as the Syrians have actually given security guarantees under the agreement on the disengagement of forces in the Golan, for example. Under that agreement, they prevented any Syrian or Palestinian from crossing the Golan in order to attack Israel.

Concluding, *AL-ANBA'* says: There is more than one piece of evidence to indicate that Damascus, despite its public statements, is in fact concerned about giving security guarantees and seeing that they are carried out — especially since it knows that the IDF can guarantee the safety of its people and territory by various means, whether the others have given guarantees and carried them out or have said that they would give such guarantees and then acted differently.

Tripartite Economic Package Deal Initiated

TA021410 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The Cabinet, the Histadrut, and the employers initialed a package deal for the economy about an hour ago. Wages and prices will be frozen for 3 months. In the first month, salaried workers will forgo one-third of the cost-of-living increment, and the same will happen in the 2d month — with the proviso that in that month the sum that will be waived will not exceed 5 percent.

The Histadrut says that the package deal does not cancel the labor or wage agreements, and that the employers will have to compensate the wage earners in accordance with the agreements. The above was reported by our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum.

The Histadrut Central Committee will meet tomorrow evening to approve the package deal.

Peres Announces Signing

TA021424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1353 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] In the prime minister's office in Tel Aviv a news conference will begin in a few minutes to spell out the first details of a package deal for the economy. It appears that the package deal will be initialed today. Let us hear our correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum in the prime minister's office in Tel Aviv.

[Nestelbaum] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres a few minutes ago began to speak after the Histadrut secretary general and the finance minister signed a package deal. Let us hear the prime minister's words.

[Peres — picked up in midsentence] ...each one representing a serious public position and there are essential contradictions in the situation. Despite this, by joining forces we managed to

overcome them, and I am sure that for the benefit of all sides, two things prevailed: the good of the economy and the good of the citizens, including the workers of Israel, who are first and foremost citizens of the country.

This is an extremely important step toward healing the economy, even though the economy will not be healed as a result of only one step. This is an initial step, after which we all agree more steps must be taken.

I want to express my hope that additional steps will be taken following negotiations and full agreement between all the factors in the economy. These negotiations proved that through talks, important and significant steps can be taken. I want to announce that the finance minister will explain the agreement on behalf of the government. A committee of six ministers operated on behalf of the government. It had the authority to negotiate until a decision was reached, and the agreement reached was accepted by all six ministers.

Again, I want to express my gratitude.

Histadrut Chief on Deal

TA021442 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1356 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Statement by Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar after signing economic package deal with Cabinet and Coordinating Committee of Economic Organizations in prime minister's Tel Aviv office — live]

[Text] We went through a difficult period before we were able to reach this agreement. It does not include everything we wanted, but represents one thing: a joint effort to try to rescue the economy from its difficulties — both in the sphere of employment and in the sphere of rampant price hikes.

The Histadrut insisted that all sectors of the population share in the burden of healing the economy, with the exception of the weak among us, whom we are obligated to strengthen. I note with satisfaction that the government and the employers accepted this position of a fair sharing of the burden and of exempting the weak strata, which the government has undertaken to compensate through the employers. We also fought to have those who are not wage earners [the self-employed] taxed, along with the wage earners, so that it is not exclusively the wage earners who bear the brunt of the burden. The government accepted this, too.

I would hope that the joint effort invested in reaching this agreement, and the contribution made by the salaried workers, will indeed constitute an answer, and not just a waste, and that we will emerge from this agreement stronger in terms of employment and the economy.

I would like to thank my colleagues for cooperating in sharing the efforts, the government, and my colleagues in the Coordinating Committee of Economic Organizations. It should be understood that this agreement will require the endorsement of the Central Committee, which I have summoned to a meeting and debate on Saturday night.

Moda'i Explains Terms

TA021508 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1359 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Statement by Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i after signing economic package deal with Cabinet and Coordinating Committee of Economic Organizations in prime minister's Tel Aviv office — live]

[Text] The agreement we have just signed, which you have witnessed and which requires endorsement by the various institutions — the Cabinet, the Histadrut Central Committee, and the Coordinating Committee of the Economic Organizations — comes during a difficult economic period for Israel. The wild rate of inflation has precluded all healing meausres, but at the same time, one must realize that this agreement is intended both to create the conditions and provide sufficient time for the further implementation of measures we have already begun — and whose fruit we will have to guarantee — the central point of which is a deep cut in the government's budget.

The agreement is balanced. It was impossible to reach such an agreement or these objectives without each sector of the economy — namely, the employers, the workers, and the government, and I emphasize that the order in which I am naming them is of no significance — contributing its share to lowering costs, and consequently also to stabilizing prices.

The agreement is valid for 3 months, but it should be understood that within those 3 months we must make sure that when this agreement runs out, there will still be conditions that will allow the economy to follow its natural course and yet maintain stability, stable prices, and therefore stable wages, and will allow for a balanced budget — which I emphasize, is the slashed budget — because under no circumstances will we be able to give up this central move.

This might be the right time to note that over the last few weeks not only were we engrossed in tedious negotiations in a bid to obtain this agreement; but that at the same time, the prime minister was in the United States, where he received the practical aid — and just as importantly, the aid which won international ramifications — that the United States will stand by our side both for the duration of the agreement, as well as afterwards, in everything that has to do with Israel's balance of payments.

Last week, the prime minister and several ministers held intensive meetings with world Jewry. Late last night we reached and signed an agreement of understanding — if one can call it that — with them as well. It calls for them to shoulder their share.

The agreement we signed today deals with the share to be shouldered by the citizens of Israel, of whatever stratum. One can certainly hope that given this combined, joint effort we will embark on a road that may not be easy, but one that stands a good chance of bringing the Israeli economy back to normal within some time. We hope that a little later it will also return to growth and development — which in fact is the joint objective of all the signatories to this agreement, all the citizens of Israel, world Jewry, and I must add also the U.S. Government, which has expressed such readiness to stand by our side.

Naturally, it is not my job to thank the partners to this matter — the prime minister did that. But no one thanked the prime minister. [words indistinct] This is the first time....[superimposed explanation by correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum is cut at 1400 GMT to allow for the hourly newscast]

Further Details

TA021527 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1423 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Telephone report by economic affairs correspondent Ze'ev Hasper in the broadcasting van outside the Tel Aviv office of the prime minister, immediately after the signing of the package deal agreement — live]

[Excerpts] The ceremony of initialing the agreement which we had long awaited ended about 15 minutes ago.

The first clause of the agreement talks about a freeze on prices, services, goods, and wages. Profits and taxes, too, will not be increased for a period of 3 months. During the 1st month, one-third of the cost-of-living increment will be offset, and the industrialists [as heard] will absorb two-thirds of it. During the 2d month, assuming that the cost-of-living increment is 15 percent, the employers will absorb 10 percent of it and the wage earners 5 percent.

Compensation of low-income people below the tax threshold has yet to be determined. Beginning in February 1985, and for the next 3 months, salaried workers will be compensated by a 5-percent credit on their income tax.

We have also learned that the agreement signed today has a secret appendix — or rather it is not available for publication at this point — which deals with the issue of the interest and exchange rates in the economy. The reason for this secrecy is that it is one-sided from the point of view of the government and has nothing to do with the package deal.

The prime minister gave the opening statement, congratulating the participants, relating the many difficulties in the negotiations that led to the agreement, and noting that this is only the beginning and that a great deal of work is still expected to be done on the road to economic recovery.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar said: We did not get everything we wanted. We did as much as we could to heal the economy. He expressed his gratitude that the government and the employers accepted the Histadrut's position that all strata of the population should share the burden.

Eli Hurvits, the president of the industrialists association, talked about the calculated risk he took in signing the agreement. But, he said, this is the precondition for success. The interim period, or time-out, given to the economy should be taken advantage of.

The question, of course, is what next? What happens the day after the deal? The Treasury will now be free to prepare and discuss the state budget, which everyone agrees requires further cuts. Although everyone agrees with this need, as will be recalled, the ministers are in the habit of fighting with quite a bit of determination for their ministries' budgets. Let us bear in mind that only a tiny bit of the cuts agreed upon have already been implemented, so that the goal of curtailing government demand is still far away. We must also decide what to do with the capital market, the assets worth tens of billions of dollars — part of them liquid — held by the public. It is necessary to take measures to prevent this capital from flowing into the economy. Also, what should be done with state revenues which are continually on the decline, and more questions need to be answered.

At the same time, of course, there will be supervision of the implementation of the deal: prices, the erosion of the wages, the rate of inflation, unemployment, and more.

Import Freeze Partially Thawed

TA021525 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 2 Nov 84 p 3

[Amnon Atad report]

[Text] The government has decided gradually to thaw the freeze on imports. This surprising government move has been made without the knowledge of most of the ministers.

The *HADASHOT* correspondent has learned that Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i decided to thaw the freeze on some imported products in order to check the sharp increase in the prices of local products.

Foreign Currency Reserves Continue To Dwindle

TA011728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The decrease in Israel's foreign currency reserves is continuing. In October the reserves dropped by $94 million to a low of $1,994 million. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the $1.2 billion in U.S. aid reached Israel yesterday but was recorded in the Treasury's coffers only today, so that it will enter the reserves clause only next month.

Money printing last month totaled more than 33 billion shekels. The Finance Ministry says this is a drop of 4 percent in comparison with the average monthly injection of money into the economy over the last 6 months, and a drop of 6 percent in comparison with last month. The head of the Research Department in the State Revenue Administration, Yoram Gabay, said that the drop in tax collection, which is one of the reasons for printing money, continued and amounted to 25 percent. The drop is noticeable in all spheres of taxation.

Shamir Rejects Criticism of Likud Economics

TA020839 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister Shamir yesterday warned against rash political moves that may invite unnecessary pressures, the likes of which we have already forgotten about. On another matter, Shamir said that in cases of extreme acts of brutality, the death penalty should be considered. Shamir also addressed himself to the economic issue, contending that the Likud was not

responsible for economic mistakes made; the conspiracy of advancing the early elections led to our current plight. Yitzhaq Shamir was speaking before the Herut Central Committee and our party affairs correspondent Yotam Yaqir listened to his speech.

[Begin recording] [Yaqir] The vice prime minister said the Likud's 7-year term in office had navigated Israel to freedom from external pressures. Therefore, Shamir said, today we can concentrate our efforts on economic issues.

[Shamir] It is possible to concentrate our efforts on the economy today because Israel is not facing urgent political problems requiring our undivided attention. Therefore, we say today: Let no one, through rash moves, upset and undermine this favorable situation, thereby inviting unnecessary pressures, the likes of which we have already forgotten about.

[Yaqir] In his speech, Shamir also referred to revenge taken to counter terrorism. He called them partisan actions which harm our ability to defeat hostile terrorist activity as opposed to actually deterring it. Later the vice prime minister talked about an ironhanded policy against the terrorists who seek our blood.

[Shamir] As we have said in the past, there is room to consider the death penalty in cases of extreme cruelty. [end recording]

Defense Officials To Review Egyptian Affairs

TA020655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Today Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will hold in his office the first consultation on Israeli-Egyptian relations, in which he will be briefed on the disputed points by defense establishment officials. Rabin is holding the meeting in preparation for the government's upcoming discussion on this issue. The major problem is the Tabah issue. Military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, we thought that the defense establishment will no longer discuss Israeli-Egyptian matters — what can you tell us?

[Tal] The disagreement with the Egyptians definitely centers around the Tabah problem, but there is a dispute between Egypt and Israel on 15 border points, from Kerem Shalom to Tabah and from border stone No 6 to border stone No 91. Theoretically, most of these points are devoid of political or military significance as far as both Israel and Egypt are concerned, but the two countries stand on the principle involved. The Egyptians explained to their colleagues on the joint Israeli-Egyptian military committee on many occasions the importance of defining a precise border in the area of Qezi'ot or Ra's al-Naqb, for instance. However, it is clear that Egypt's primary interest focuses on Tabah, where Israel clearly demonstrates its sovereignty.

There are only a few officials in the defense establishment today who claim that we should make a concession on this point. Egypt is currently in the midst of a rapprochement with the Arab world, and it is doubtful whether Israel will receive anything appropriate in return for any concessions on the border. A concession regarding the disputed issues may be interpreted as weakness on Israel's part, and will portray Israel as unsure of the justness of its position. In addition, a concession on any minor point may lead to firmer Egyptian demands on other, more important points, such as Tabah.

The defense establishment also has to examine the matter of Egypt's military buildup and its deployment east of the Suez Canal, in Zone A. The defense establishment believes that the Egyptians are preparing an infrastructure for two armies in this zone, and several military figures say that this activity runs counter to the spirit of the peace treaty. The Egyptians claim they are preparing a defense system and are not violating the agreement, as the number of forces which they maintain in this zone is even less than that which they are allowed, according to the agreement.

This morning Minister Rabin will hear a review of the disputed points with Egypt, and he will apparently want to delve into the details involved, in preparation for the upcoming Cabinet session on Israeli-Egyptian relations, meant to examine the possibility of thawing these relations. This morning, we questioned the defense minister's media and information adviser on the discussion which will be held today, but he declined to comment.

AL-FAJR Editor: Palestinians Ready To Negotiate

TA011541 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Nov 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] *AL-FAJR* editor Hanna Sanyurah has said that the Palestinians are ready for peace negotiations and that 'Arafat has conducted the war with the radicals in order to bring about mutual recognition between the State of Israel and a Palestinian state.

He expressed the fear, however, that if there is no peace initiative, there will be another war between the Israelis and the Arabs. Sanyurah was speaking in a debate in the Jerusalem Zavta club, addressing the issue of the Israeli election and its effect on the territories. According to him, proximity [qirva] talks or any other kind of indirect talks will produce no results. The only way is through direct talks between the PLO and Israel. He believes that the talks with Israel will be conducted by a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and that later on there will be talks between the Jordanians and the Palestinians. This is due to the fact that the Palestinians have reached the conclusion that Israel is not willing to negotiate with the PLO.

The correspondent Ziyad abu Ziyad rejected claims voiced in Israel that the Israeli youths were murdered in Cremisan only because they were Jews. According to him the assassin is known to be mentally ill and was sentenced to a 5 year prison term in Jordan after cursing King Husayn.

The two correspondents said that there is no programmatic difference between the Alignment and the Likud. However, the Alignment's attitude in managing daily life in the territories is much better than the Likud's.

Bi'r Zayt Reopens; Students Cause Disturbances

TA011818 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1810 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Bi'r Zayt, 1 Nov (ITIM) — Studies in Bi'r Zayt University were renewed today following a strike of more than 2 weeks. The strike erupted against the background of the students' refusal to accept an increase in tuition fees. Studies were renewed following an agreement between the students and the institution's administration.

The ITIM correspondent notes that on the 1st day studies were to renew, students chose not to attend classes, preferring to cause disturbances and stone the security forces and vehicles which were traveling in the area.

Civilian Administration Razes Illegal Buildings

TA011804 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Some 32 shacks and huts belonging to Arab residents were demolished today in the Al-Jiftliq area in the Jordan valley on orders from the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that Arab workers employed in the area erected about 80 illegal buildings which constituted a security hazard. After repeated warnings administration officials came today and demolished five shacks. The other buildings were destroyed by their owners.

Ambassador Lewis' Remarks on Reagan Plan Viewed

TA011641 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Nov 84 p 8

[Moshe Zaq commentary: "The Carrot of the Ambassador"]

[Text] The sting contained in Ambassador Lewis' remarks lay in the final sentence of his lecture at Tel Aviv University.

After the ambassador recounted all the mistakes made by the United States, Egypt, and Israel as far as the implementation of the Camp David accords are concerned, he "expressed regret" for a sin the United States committed, as it were, in not impressing on Israel the urgency of the political process "since the United States relied on the carrot alone."

Although this was self-criticism for a mistake made by the United States, the sting was clear: The U.S. should not have settled for just the carrot policy; to convince Israel to make concessions, the United States should have also used the stick.

Ambassador Lewis did not clearly say this, but everyone understood the implication. Nevertheless, his remarks did not shake his listeners, nor the Israeli communications media; it was as if a publicly hinted recommendation about the use of the stick policy toward Israel had been taken for granted.

The Israeli press, which showed a great deal of sensitivity to any partisan teeth-grinding, did not get the message contained in the ambassador's self-criticism; nor did it feel like grinding its own teeth at the mention of using the stick in the framework of Israeli-U.S. deliberations.

In contrast, the U.S. media pounced on another remark made by Ambassador Lewis during the lecture. Washington and New York did take notice of the criticism voiced by the ambassador regarding the manner in which U.S. diplomacy treated the Reagan plan.

In fact, the ambassador did not level criticism at the Reagan plan. On the contrary, he said it was a good plan. The criticism he leveled concerned its timing and the manner in which the diplomatic negotiations for its implementation were carried out.

When and if Ambassador Lewis is asked by the U.S. State Department to explain his remarks he will probably be able to reply that by emphasizing the tactical errors, he told the Israelis in effect that President Reagan's plan was and is a good one; it was only its technical handling that failed. He will surely be able to explain his remarks as a sophisticated defense of a plan which is unacceptable to the Israeli public.

The failure of the Reagan plan does not lie in its miserable timing (it was publicized the same day the PLO evacuated Beirut, 1 September 1982); it was not for this reason that the Knesset rejected the plan.

Nor was it the faulty moves of U.S. diplomacy, which chose to submit the plan to Menahem Begin the day he left for a vacation in Nahariyya, a trip which seemed to him to bear witness to the success of the understanding reached with the United States on evacuating the PLO from Beirut. It is not these unsuccessful diplomatic moves which led the Israeli Government to reject the plan. The plan was doomed to failure from the start since it was intended to dictate to Israel preconditions for a settlement with Jordan, while Jordan was bound by the need to have prior PLO consent.

In other words, this plan was, in fact, aimed at circumventing a U.S. commitment not to conduct negotiations with the PLO. Husayn was supposed to serve as the mediator between the United States and 'Arafat while Israel was supposed to pay Husayn in advance for the mediation.

The failure was clear even if U.S. diplomats had not made the errors they made. The attempt to blame technical or tactical blunders for the failure may, indirectly, help those elements which are trying to thaw the Reagan plan.

President Reagan, who publicly declared his adherence to the plan, told Prime Minister Shim'on Peres that the plan is not operational since it has no Arab partner.

There are plenty of elements who are trying to persuade the Reagan administration to renew its Middle East initiative following the elections. The British secretary of state, who visited Jerusalem this week, did not conceal such a recommendation. The criticism of the tactical errors may blur the basic fact that this plan was conceived and born by mistake.

Cosmetic repairs to diplomacy cannot bridge the gap between the good will shown by President Reagan toward Israel and the operational plan carrying his name. The person who advised President Reagan to use the stick against Israel forgot, appar-

ently, that during his 4 years in power the President tried, on the advice of his aides, to use the stick against Israel — he even withheld the supply of planes to Israel — but that policy did not succeed.

It was not only the ambassador but also the President, who is currently trying to gain the support of U.S. Jewry, who failed to express himself correctly this past week.

During an election speech in a Long Island synagogue, President Reagan told his Jewish audience that the United States sent the Marines to Beirut to save Israel from a holocaust.

President Reagan surely did not intend to offend Israel. His friendship is not in doubt, but whoever prepared his speech tripped him up: the Marines were not sent to Beirut to defend Israel; they were sent there to give cover to the PLO terrorists and the Syrian soldiers during the evacuation from the Lebanese capital. That was the condition set by 'Arafat for accepting the evacuation agreement: He asked for a multinational force to protect the evacuees and the Marines were part of this force.

The Marines returned to Beirut after Israel evacuated the city, again, not to protect Israel but to protect the Lebanese and Palestinian residents.

This is not a mere historical issue; it has practical implications because U.S. public opinion may hold Israel responsible for the Marine casualties in Beirut. Israel did not need, nor does it need to be defended by U.S. soldiers.

It is important to note this basic fact exactly in this transitional period in Washington, at a time when the U.S. Administration is courting Israel's friends on the one hand, while U.S. officials still dream of reviving the plan which muddled Washington-Jerusalem relations in the past.

Such slips of the tongue should not go unnoticed because if they are heard now, during a honeymoon in Israeli-U.S. relations, they may well turn into a stick which will follow the carrot of eve-of-election days.

West Bank Businessman May Visit Baghdad

TA011410 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Nov 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] The head of a group of investors from the territories who are interested in establishing a bank in Nabulus has returned from Amman. Our correspondent has learned that he not only sought to secure Jordanian approval of the plan, but also tried to interest Jordanian investors in joining the plan.

Jordan's attitude toward the plan is still unknown. It is possible that in the near future this businessman will visit Baghdad, perhaps because the offices of the "Arab boycott" are located in that city. The aim of the visit will be to find out their attitude toward the plan.

ALGERIA

Coverage of Arrivals for Anniversary Celebration

Bendjedid Receives Libya's Jallud

LD011801 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general and president of the Republic, today received Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Revolution Command Council of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, in the presence of Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee; Abdelkader Benkasi, head of the International Affairs and Cooperation Department at the Presidency of the Republic, and the official in charge of the Jamahiriyah People's Bureau in Algeria.

Tunisian, PLO, Polisario Delegations

LD011127 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Algiers, 1/11/84 (APS) — The head of the Tunisian Republic, Mr Habib Bourguiba arrived yesterday in Algiers at the head of an important delegation who is to attend the festivities commemorating the 30th anniversary of the beginning of the armed revolution. The Tunisian head of state was greeted at his arrival by President Chadli Bendjedid president of the Republic, FLN Party secretary general.

On another turn, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, president of the PLO Executive Committee arrived yesterday to attend the festivities marking the 30th anniversary of 1st November 1954.

Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front, President of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) arrived yesterday to take part [in] festivities marking the 30th anniversary of 1st November revolution.

LIBYA

Jabir Receives Palestinian National Alliance Leaders

LD011044 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0925 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Nov (JANA) — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, yesterday received a delegation of the Palestinian National Alliance, which included Brothers Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], member of the Fatah New Revolutionary Command; Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-General Command; and Dr Samir Gusha, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front.

Health Cooperation Agreement Signed With Romania

LD020955 Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Safar, 2 Nov — JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Last night, in the Secretariat of the General People's Committee for Health, in Tripoli, a ceremony for the signing of a joint cooperation agreement in the field of health services between the Jamahiriyah and Romania took place. On behalf of the Libyan Arab side Dr Murad 'Ali Langi, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Health, and from the Romanian side Dr Lidia Oradan, state secretary for health affairs. [sentence as received]

The cooperation agreement includes the cooperation in health institutions field, medicine manufacturing, medical equipment, operation of hospitals and health clinics, exchange of health researches and the increase in bilateral cooperation in the medical fields between the two friendly countries.

Last 'Support Elements' Leave Faya-Largeau, Fada

LD011032 Tripoli JANA in English 0842 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Safar, 1 Nov — JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — JANA was informed that, yesterday, the remaining Libyan support elements, who were in support of the National Unity Chadian Government, were withdrawn from Faya-Largeau and Fada.

MOROCCO

Reportage on Visit of Spanish Defense Minister

Serra i Serra Arrives

LD011137 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Rabat, 1 Nov (MAP) — The Spanish Defense Minister, Narciso Serra i Serra, arrived in Rabat last night for a 4-day visit. The Spanish defense minister expressed his pride in responding to His Highness King Hassan II's invitation. He explained that his visit to Morocco is within the framework of Spain's foreign policy, which endeavours to improve Spanish relations with its neighbors.

The Spanish defense minister added that his country will work for the consolidation of cooperation with its neighbors in the field of defense. He stressed that the principal objective of this visit is to establish better relations between Morocco and Spain in the field of defense and to exchange the two countries' viewpoints in this respect.

On the joint Moroccan-Spanish maneuvers, the Spanish minister explained that they were not only important in view of the forces taking part but also because of the objectives expected from them.

Lamrani Receives Spanish Minister

LD012345 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani today received the Spanish minister of defense, Narciso Serra i Serra, who is on an official visit to Morocco. Their talks dealt with various aspects of Moroccan-Spanish cooperation, issues of mutual interest, and international matters, particularly those concerning the area.

Mohamed Karim Lamrani affirmed the excellent quality and importance of Moroccan-Spanish relations, which stem from the personal ties between His Majesty King Hassan II and the Spanish monarch, King Juan Carlos. The prime minister also projected the need to develop the integration of the two countries in view of their having a common destiny. The Spanish defense minister related greetings from [Spanish Prime Minister] Felipe Gonzalez.

For Spain, the meeting was attended by the Spanish ambassador to Morocco, Raimundo Bassols, and the other members of the Spanish delegation, and for Morocco, they were attended by Minister of State Hadj M'hammed Bahnini; Bensalem Smili, minister of ocean fisheries and Merchant Marine; Colonel Major Mohamed al-Shabar, secretary general of the Defense Administration; (Rashed al-Haddawi), adviser to the prime minister; and some officers of the General Command of the Royal Armed Forces.

This morning, the Spanish defense minister visited the naval base at Casablanca, where he was welcomed by Colonel Lahsan Uhirah; the inspector general of the Royal Navy. Serra i Serra visited the warship *Colonel al-Rahmani*. The inspector general of the Royal Navy then reviewed the capabilities of the Royal Naval Forces and the willpower of its supreme commander, His Majesty King Hassan II, to develop them and train its cadres and provide them with all means of surveilling the Moroccan shores and defending its territorial waters.

King Hassan Sends Condolences to Indian President

LD011932 Rabat MAP in French 1530 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Rabat, 1 Nov (MAP) — King Hassan II has addressed a message of condolences to the president of the Indian Republic, Mr Zail Singh, following the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi. Here is the text of the message:

"Mr President;

We have learned with deep shock of the death of Mrs Indira Gandhi. This woman, who astonished the world with her courage, her tenacity, and her patriotism, devoted her entire life, to the last moment, to serving her country and the international community.

We offer you our sincere condolences and beg you to be our interpreter with the government and people of India. Please accept, Mr President, the expression of our highest esteem."

SUDAN

Omdurman Analyzes President's Peace Moves

EA011422 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 31 Oct 84

[From "News Analysis" program]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the president of the Republic has directed that means of dialogue be strengthened so as to finalize a formula for settling conflict between the sons of the single nation. This directive comes as a blessing from the results of the initial negotiations held by the committee entrusted by his excellency to negotiate with the group of William 'Abdallah Shul.

Once again the revolution's call for dialogue to solve the problems of the sons of Sudan inside the territory of Sudan is renewed, far from foreign intervention, so as to elevate the banner of logical dialogue, and out of the conviction that differing opinions are not in reality deemed a cause of conflict, in which hostile forces succeed in their main goal of persistently searching for the purpose of kindling the fires of disunity, dispersion, and infighting.

Therefore, the initiative of the group of William 'Abdallah, who took the step of writing to the president of the Republic, is deemed to a new page in the book of dialogue indispensable for Sudan, as it hastens to fight the aims of hostile forces to harm the soil of the homeland. At the same time, this initiative comes as proof of the vitality of the submitted aims and the vitality of the institutions opened by the revolution for the sons of the homeland so that they — that is these institutions — can absorb the militant ideas of our people who are always craving full democratic (?discussion).

In this respect, national unity is the safety valve for whoever is ambitious for it. And through national unity, the sons of the south wrote the book of national unity with the ink of national sincerity that kept the country away from a great many woes and infighting and the wrecking of developmental efforts. Through national unity it also became possible for our people to pass through moments of victory by melting together with all their conventions, tribes, and races in the melting pot of one goal and safeguarding the orientations of the homeland.

It has become clear from the meetings of the committee that the rate of understanding was high to a gratifying and reassuring extent. Indeed, it reached an initial agreement as the nucleus for a comprehensive, peaceful solution. Naturally, this initial agreement cannot depart from the supreme aims of the state and commitment to the revolutionary line which our people approved. This line, which the revolution approved, makes us aware of some point:

1. Among its aims, the leadership in Sudan places dialogue at the forefront of peace efforts, out of a belief that violence, which it rejected when the revolution took place, will not solve the problem but complicate it. Violence will strengthen the chances of those seeking to entrench such violence as a prominent

characteristic between the north and south, making use of its various justifications.

2. The issues being raised by the brothers in the south can be settled by democratic means. If, for example, we take the question of division of regions in the south, the leader has repeatedly pointed out that the south is free to take whatever form it wants, even a return to one region.

3. The question of disagreement between brothers in the single homeland does not grow to the form of religious disagreement which the hostile mass media hoped would take this shape and that basis.

4. Development in the south is faced with challenges that commit the sons of the single homeland to an effective social (?discussion) that will keep the beloved south away from policies based on ideology from which the countryman in the south do not benefit.

5. The popular institutions in the south must be strengthened and enabled to take the initiative on many submitted questions.

Then remains the true call for the success of what the leader has announced and the endeavor, begun by the leader, toward peace achieved by dialogue in June 1969 and in March 1972. The history of the south is full of sacrifice and loyalty, and each day the south is always serving the unity, honor, and development of Sudan.

4 Liberation Front Members Killed

JN011549 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Nov (SUNA) — Defecting communist Colonel John Garang has liquidated four members of the so-called Sudanese Liberation Front in the outlaws' camps in Ethiopia. These members are (Barnaba Bikmam), (Paul Kor), (Fiyoya Tahiyo), and (Loger Niyang Lado) from the Al-Nuwayr tribe. They were liquidated because they opposed John Garang's policy, dictated by the Soviet Union and Ethiopia, and because they expressed the desire to respond to President Ja'far Numayri's call for dialogue and for ending the problem. They were liquidated while on their way to join William 'Abdallah Shul's men, who decided to hold a dialogue with the competent authorities in the first week of October this year.

It is noteworthy that (Barnaba Bikmam) was an administrative officer in the Upper Nile Ahobo Council before he joined the outlaws. (Loger Niyang) supervised the June 1983 abduction of hostages in the Bumma Mountain area. These hostages were later released by the People's Armed Forces. (Loger) received training in Libya and Iran, and his men were trained by Soviet and Cuban experts.

A responsible source told SUNA that physical liquidation is John Garang's policy for getting rid of his rivals or opponents. The liquidation of Bejamin Paul, one of the (Dinka Oyil) tribe and the so-called front's official spokesman in London, is only an example on this policy.

ETHIOPIA

AFP: Eritrean Front Claims Food Aid Misused

NC011353 Paris AFP in English 1347 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 1 (AFP) — The Ethiopian Government has been using international food aid in preparations for a new military offensive against guerrillas and to [pressure] young men into enrolling for military service, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) charged today. In a statement distributed here, the EPLF alleged that the food, intended to help an estimated 6 million drought victims, was in fact only being offered to people who agreed to military service. Those who refused were denied the aid, it said.

"People are being forced to choose between conscription and death by starvation," said the EPLF, which is fighting for the independence of the north Ethiopian province of Eritrea. It said an enlisted soldier in the province was paid 90 kgs (200 pounds) of wheat a month and an extra 50 kgs (110 pounds) for combat assignment.

The statement also claimed that donated grain was being given to security officials and other government workers in lieu of wages. "While the intended beneficiaries of the food aid starve in the countryside, grain donated by Western nations is sold openly in the cities and towns," the EPLF said. It added that Ethiopian prisoners-of-war and deserters had confirmed that food aid was also diverted to the Ethiopian Army.

The EPLF also claimed that Eritrean areas controlled by the EPLF were being subjected to bombing raids by the Air Force. This was "with the aim of destroying property and burning crops so as to worsen the famine situation and force the population to government-controlled areas where they will be asked to take up arms," the statement said.

Tigre Guerrillas Claim Military Success

EA011136 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali 0930 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] A brigade of black Abyssinian forces supported by planes and tanks left Alamat'a and (Balla) on 22 October and tried to recapture the historic town of Lalibela, which fell recently into the hands of TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front] fighters. Unconfirmed reports say that TPLF and EPDM [opposion Ethiopian Peoples Democratic Movement] combatants engaged the advancing enemy troops at (?Dengez Maryam), killing 120 and wounding 150 of them [words indistinct], capturing 35 automatic guns, one [words indistinct].

Nationalists Battle 'Black Abyssinian' Forces

LD011149 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali 0930 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The heroic fighters of the WSLF [Western Somali Liberation Front] and the desperate forces of the Black Abyssinian Colonialists were engaged in a fierce battle in Chercher, Jijiga Region on 26 October. The Abyssianian forces suffered heavy and irreparable losses in men and materiel in the battle. The WSLF fighters, who fight for the liberation of the Western Somali territory, killed 27 Abyssinian soldiers and wounded 40 of them. They also destroyed a large quantity of arms and ammunition belonging to the enemy. The heroic WSLF fighters later returned safely to their bases.

Briefs

Envoy Credentials to PRDY — Comrade Tesema Belai, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and Socialist Ethiopian ambassador to PDRY, presented his credentials to PDRY leader Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad last monday. It was learned that Comrade Tesema, when presenting his credentials, had talks on strengthening relations between the two countries. [Text] [*Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 1 Nov 84 EA*]

SOMALIA

Diplomatic Relations Established With Thailand, Nepal

EA012152 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Summary] The Somali Democratic Republic established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level with Thailand and Nepal on 1 November.

Radio Halgan: Government Units Clash; Over 200 Killed

EA012228 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Summary] Reports from Borama say two units of the Barre loyalist forces clashed on 26 October (Libaxley), in a case of mistaken identity. Over 200 soldiers were killed and many others wounded. The loyalist forces shot down one of their own MiG-19 aircraft.

Radio Halgan: Regime Kills Demonstrators

EA012231 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Summary] The Barre regime has killed 300 persons and wounded many others in Burao, most of them children, women, and students. They were killed during a peaceful demonstration in Burao on 19 October 1984. The demonstrators killed 18 soldiers and wounded 48 others. The town is under curfew and not more than three persons are allowed to meet in any one place. Reports from Borama confirm that six persons were secretly killed there early this month.

TANZANIA

Economic, Trade Agreement Signed With DPRK

EA020229 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Tanzania and the DPRK agreed in principle to start a joint economic and trade commission to undertake the continuation of relations between the two countries. Ministers concerned from the two countries will meet early in the new year to discuss the composition of the commission.

According to an agreement signed today in Dar es Salaam by the minister of economic afairs, Ndugu Kighoma Malima, and the DPRK minister of external economic affairs, Chong Song-nam, the two countries also agreed in principle to begin joint projects in the agricultural sector. The DPRK will provide experts to research the recommended areas where projects could be undertaken and discuss project cooperation. The DPRK also indicated its willingness to cooperate with Tanzania in farming cotton and other oil seeds.

UGANDA

Obote, Government Officials Leave for Gandhi Funeral

EA012309 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] President Milton Obote has left for New Delhi, India, to attend the funeral of the late Indian prime minister, Indira Gandhi, due to take place on Saturday. The president is accompanied by the prime minister, Mr Erifasi Otema Allimadi; the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Albert Picho Owiny; [Minister] of state for defense, Dr Peter Otai; and senior government officers.

CHAD

Bulk of French Forces Leaving Chad Today

AB011257 Paris AFP in English 1220 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Ndjamena, Nov 1 (AFP) — The bulk of French forces and their equipment will have left Chad by the end of today, a French military source said here. Only Air Force units and covering troops will be left in Ndjamena, out of 3,000 men who arrived in Chad in August last year to support President Hissein Habre against attacks from Libyan-backed opponents in the north.

The French troops have been progressively withdrawn over the past few weeks from their bases in Chad under an agreement with Libya, which has also been pulling its forces out of the northern half of the country.

French units leaving Chad today included a squadron of a dozen heavy AMX-10 armored cars previously based at Ati to the east of Ndjamena, which crossed the River Chari into Cameroon on their way to the port of Douala for shipment back to France. With them went around 100 other combat vehicles and 150 troops. A further 300 troops were flown out yesterday and today.

The temporary camp erected for the units falling back on Ndjamena from outlying bases was being dismantled today, and furniture from the main permanent barracks here, Camp Dubut, was being shipped out.

Meanwhile, there was no sign of the six French and six Libyan observers who arrived here Tuesday to monitor the withdrawal on the French side. An informed source said they were being taken to all the recently-evacuated positions.

A similar team of observers is operating in the north, where the Libyans are leaving behind forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei, who was ousted from Ndjamena by Mr Habre in June 1982.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Financial Agreements Signed With France

AB011728 Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Marcelino Nguema Onguene and His Excellency Pierre Corneet, French ambassador to our country, today in Malabo signed three cooperation agreements on behalf of the governments in Malabo and Paris.

The 175-million (?CFA francs) grants will be used to finance feasability studies for a road, aeronautical equipment for the Malabo International Airport, and the purchase of equipment for the Guinean administration.

RWANDA

Presidential Call for Austerity To Save Money

AB011145 Paris AFP in English 1035 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Kigali, Nov 1 (AFP) — Rwandan head of state Major-General Juvenal Habyarimana has called on public and private organizations not to hold receptions to mark special occasions, in order to save money which could be spent on development, a well-informed source said here. Maj Gen Habyarimana said that he himself would no longer attend any celebrations for whatever reason, the source said.

The president also ordered strict curbs on the use of state-owned vehicles. No minister should have more than one official car, and no vehicle could be used outside working hours or be utilized for such purposes as shopping trips and attending weddings.

The Central Committee of the ruling National Revolutionary Movement for Development recently decided it would dispense with envelops during next January's local council elections, thus saving an estimated 70,000 dollars.

12 Prisoners Charged With Coup Attempt Released

AB011210 Paris AFP in French 0902 GMT 01 Nov 84

[Text] Kigali, 1 Nov 84 (AFP) — Twelve political prisoners charged with participating in the attempted coup led by Major Theoneste Lizinde against General Juvenal Habyarimana, the Rwanda head of state, have been released on parole, it was learned in Kigali on Wednesday.

Jean-Marie Vianney Mugemena, the Rwanda minister of justice, told AFP that the prisoners had served a quarter of their prison term. Their release on parole was granted on the grounds of good behavior during their detention and "because they have given serious guarantees on future social readaptation."

The Rwanda penal code allows the justice minister to grant parole to prisoners who have served 2 months of their sentence if the sentence does not exceed 6 months and one-quarter of their sentence in the other cases. [as received]

The prisoners who were granted parole are: Sylvere Muzima, Jean Ndegeya, Nazaire Saranbuye, Francois Habukubaho, Immaculee Mukamugema, Damien Balihuta, Mathieu Mujyakera, Venerand Nduhirabandi, Frodouard Gasamunyiga, Amos Sembagare, and Thomas Sekinyogote.

Three other prisoners (Spiridion Shyirambere, Alphonse Libanje, and Hamud Hassan) had already benefited from the release on parole not long ago.

ZAIRE

Intelsat Manager Meets Premier, Comments to Press

AB012201 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] The future of Intelsat-100 was at the center of the talks that First State Commissioner Kengo wa Dondo held this morning at his private residence with Richard (Colimo), the general manager of that organization. Citizen Mukuku W'Etonda, state commissioner for posts, telephones, and telecommunications, also attended the audience. During the talks the two men examined the importance of Intelsat for Zaire.

[Begin recording] [(Colimo)] We have examined the importance of Intelsat for Zaire and the importance of Zaire for Intelsat. This means that there are two very important aspects in the relations between Intelsat and a member state, such as Zaire. Now Intelsat is [word indistinct] on Zaire's internal telecommunications network. There are virtually 50 internal stations linked with many other countries through Intelsat.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr General Manager, what are the technical relations between Intelsat-Zaire and Intelsat International?

[(Colimo)] There are two considerations. Technically our system is very efficient and I hope everything is working well here in Zaire. But nowadays, there is a certain challenge, a threat to the Intelsat system. Some companies are proposing private systems. These companies are mainly American, whose systems are only for very developed countries. We have examined the future of Intelsat on the political front. I am happy to say that, as always, Zaire's support is strong.

[Reporter] How are prices fixed by Intelsat? Does this depend on the number of transmitters installed in a country, or do you charge a contract price?

[(Colimo)] The charge for the use of the automatic system is fixed on the basis of the number of countries using the system. For instance, if we have many more circuits all over the world in future, we will reduce the price.

[Reporter] How much does Zaire pay now?

[(Colimo)] There is a fixed price in dollars for each telephone circuit. It is $400 per month, for one telephone circuit. [end recording]

Briefs

Outgoing Greek Ambassador — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, founding father of the MPR and president of the republic, today received in audience the outgoing Greek ambassador to Zaire, Andonios Korandis. [Summary] [*Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 1 Nov 84 AB*]

BURKINA

Diplomatic Relations With Iran Established

AB011406 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] A few months ago an Iranian delegation visited Burkina. This delegation took this opportunity to hold talks with several Burkinabe departments. These contacts have now proven fruitful. In fact, in an effort to develop and strengthen the relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation existing between them, the Burkinabe and the Iranian Governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations effective as from 1 November 1984, that is today.

The draft agreement was signed today in New York by Comrade Leandre Bassole, the Burkinabe permanent representative to the United Nations, and His Excellency Seyed Rajaie-Khorassani, the Iranian permanent representative to United Nations.

Sankara Receives Cuban Delegation 31 October

AB011603 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] After a 3-week visit in Ouagadougou, the Cuban delegation led by the vice minister of agriculture, Comrade Maximo Diaz, was received last night by Captain Thomas Sankara, president of the republic. According to Mr Diaz, who talked to the press at the end of the audience, the Cuban delegation is taking a flattering view of Burkina Faso to Havana.

The exchange of experiences between Burkina and Cuba in the agropastoral sector will be followed up, the leader of the Cuban delegation added, following his talks with the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and our minister of agriculture.

Former Ministers Suspended From Civil Service

AB020720 Paris AFP in French 0340 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, Nov 2 (AFP) — The Burkina Faso Cabinet this week suspended two former ministers from the civil service, following their arrest last weekend. They are Arba Hama Diallo (foreign affairs) and Adama Toure (information), who were ministers in the first revolutionary government formed in Upper Volta — now called Burkina Faso — when the military seized power in August last year.

A Cabinet communique released here Thursday said Mr Toure had been suspended for mounting a "campaign of disparagement" against the government's recent abolition of a tax on peasant farming, and Mr Diallo for trying to deter people from committing themselves to the ambitious people's development programme unveiled last month.

The ex-ministers belong to the Marxist-Leninist Patriotic League for Development (Lipad), which supplied a number of ministers in Captain Thomas Sankara's first administration. The past year has seen a number of policy clashes between Lipad and the military members of the government. Lipad's secretary-general, Philippe Ouedraogo, also a former minister, has been proposed for the vacant mines engineering post in the Liptakogourma regional development schemes, the Cabinet communique added.

Burkina Faso has just taken over the chairmanship of the Liptako-Gourma Integrated Development Authority. Mali and Niger are the other members.

Chief of High Command Speaks on Army Anniversary

AB012132 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpts] Our National Armed Forces today celebrated the 23d anniversary of their creation. On this occasion many people received decorations. In Ouagadougou the commander in chief of the National Armed Forces High Command took stock of the 23 years of neocolonialism. He said the Army had been living off the backs of the people and aloof from them. Comrade Lingani then spoke of our Army since 4 August 1983:

[Begin Lingani recording] Our objective has been to transform an unpopular Army into a revolutionary Army resolutely engaged at the side of the people to fight against underdevelopment in the political, socioeconomic, and operational fields. The new mission assigned to the Army is to train each soldier into a revolutionary militant, to take part in national production, to fight any internal or external enemy, and to participate in the military training of the rest of the people. As you can see, this is truly a charter for popular defense, the anniversary of which we are celebrating today. Although there are still a few difficulties in carrying out this mission, due essentially to the lack of means, structures, and petit-bourgeois mentalities, the result is satisfactory and encouraging at the level of all the forces of popular defense, namely the Revolutionary Defense Committees, the People's National Armed Forces, the People's Vigilance Battalions, the Rapid Intervention Battalions, the paramilitary corps, the security forces, and so on.

(?The military training) all over the national territory falls within the framework of the popular defense strategy, which implies the operational defense of the territory. In this regard, the military training program for the people has been a popular success commensurate with our militant people's political conscience and revolutionary vigilance. Now we can reasonably mobilize and equip instantly four times more troops than the regular Army before 4 August 1983. Better still, such troops have a solid revolutionary morale.

Meanwhile, our revolutionary people will always be grateful to the friendly countries whose revolutionary solidarity made it possible for us to acquire, at little cost for the state, a variety of equipment which is necessary for our defense and for the consolidation of the popular and democratic revolution. We assure these friendly countries that the formidable equipment will be in good hands, in the hands of the militant people, so that reactionaries cannot use it against the interests of the revolution and of the people. In fact, the equipment is a guarantee for our merciless

struggle against, and our final victory over, the licensed enemies of the revolution, the local lackeys of imperialism, and overt conspiracies and plots which will only stimulate the Burkinabe people to better carry out their solidarity duties within the framework of efforts to strengthen the anti-imperialist and anti-reactionary front in the interest of peace and friendship among the peoples. [end recording]

GHANA

Envoy Brings Numayri Message for Rawlings

AB011957 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] coordinating secretary, Mr P.V. Obeng, today received on behalf of Chairman Rawlings a special message from President Ja'far Numayri of the Sudan. The message was delivered by a Sudanese minister of state, Dr (Faysal Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman).

Mr Obeng briefed the minister on the situation in Ghana and the efforts being made by the PNDC to bring about stability and economic development in the country. The two men also discussed bilateral relations, African issues, and the forthcoming ILO conference in Geneva. Dr ('Abd ar-Rahman) said his country and Ghana have similar problems. He hoped Ghanaians would succeed in their development efforts.

Introduction of Army Agricultural Program Hailed

AB011750 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Maxwell Wula commentary]

[Excerpts] The announcement by the force commander, Major General Arnold Quainoo, that the Ministry of Defense is to introduce new structures in the Ghana Armed Forces to make the military more productive is the most welcome news to most, if not all, Ghanaians.

To this end, the ministry is taking steps to appoint directors for military farms and ex-servicemen resettlement affairs. Plans are also afoot to recruit personnel into the Armed Forces to take up agriculture. With this new development in the government's economic recovery program, the military is making an obvious gesture. All able-bodied men must go to the farm, even those who hold the gun in defense of the nation.

In actual fact, no one expects the military to produce enough to feed the whole nation, but their contribution to large scale agriculture to feed themselves could meet the government halfway. That is why most people would welcome the present move by the Ministry of Defense.

Under a 5-year development program, our Armed Forces would be made to be self-sufficient in the production of yams, cassava, rice, maize, vegetables, and poultry to feed the service personnel. This plan is laudable as far as it goes, but there is more beyond than justdrawing a program of this nature. This is because our failure to be self-sufficient in the past years could be laid at the doors of the Ministry of Agriculture. Bad planning, poor supervision, and (?lack of) rural education for farmers contributed immensely to inadequate food production. Farming inputs like fertilizers and machinery either arrived late or not at all. Certainly the lack of adequate mechanization has contributed to low crops.

These are problems that we have been facing for a long time. It's assumed that the Ministry of Defense is aware of this and that is the more reason why it is taking measures to appoint directors for these farms. Perhaps it could be suggested that the operations of these directors in acquiring the necessary inputs and other essentials should strictly be under the Ministry of Defense with little or no dealings with the Ministry of Agriculture. The reasons for this suggestion are obvious. We know that with their military way to organizing, the program would be a big success. We also know that our service personnel would take this agricultural venture as dignity in labor and produce even more than enough to feed the nation.

While congratulating the military on this bold initiative, an appeal ought to go to all that there is the need for all to get involved in agriculture if we do not wish to have the same bitter experience we had last year.

Daily Disturbed Over Rumor of Official's Escape

AB012040 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Nov 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* is disturbed by rumors currently circulating in Kumasi that Kwame Arhin, the former chairman of the Ashanti regional public tribunal, has fled the country. If this is true, says the paper, the public would like to know how somebody against whom an appeal is pending should be allowed to travel outside the country. The public would also like to know why the appeal against Nii Amon Addy was dealt with so expeditiously, whereas another, lodged within the same period, has not been heard of. As a matter of urgency and in the spirit of accountability, the *TIMES* urges the Office of the Coordinator of Investigations, Vettings, and Tribunals to clear the air so that the institution of the public tribunals is not undermined by rumors.

GUINEA

Conte, Vieira at Army Anniversary Celebrations

AB012158 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] The 26th anniversary of the Guinean Army was celebrated today with delirious enthusiasm in various military garrisons of the country. In Conakry the festivities took place at Alpha Yaya Camp. The head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte, chaired the ceremony in the presence of his comrade in arms, General Joao Bernardo Vieira Nino, president of the sister Republic of Guinea-Bissau.

Gandhi Honored During Celebrations

AB012225 Conkary Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The assassination of the Indian prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has deeply affected the people of Guinea, the Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN], the government, and the head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte. Let us listen to the remarks by the minister of foreign affairs, Captain Facine Toure, on the event:

[Begin recording] Your Excellency, Mr President of the sister Republic of Guinea-Bissau, your Excellency, Mr Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea, Your Excellencies, members of the CMRN, and of the Government of Republic of Guinea, Your Excellencies the ambassadors, worthy representatives of friendly countries in Guinea, dear brothers and sisters, while we were preparing to celebrate the anniversary of our national Army, our glorious Army, we learned on the radio of the tragic death of Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian prime minister. The death of this personality, who, as you are aware, left a significant mark on the history of India and played a decisive role as the head of the Nonaligned Movement, a movement we belong to, affects us deeply.

Had we not made all these arrangements to celebrate the anniversary of the Army we would have given up the celebrations, but, in view of the present circumstances, the president of the Republic of Guinea, our brother and friend, Colonel Lansana Conte, calls on all the people of Guinea to bow down piously and humbly in memory of our sister, Indira Gandhi, who has fallen on the battlefield. Also, on this occasion, you have already been informed by our radio, 24 hours of national mourning will be observed throughout the country as of today at 0000 till tomorrow at 0000. Flags will fly at half mast during this period. There will be neither entertainment nor rejoicing. At this very moment, the president of the republic has charged me with asking you to stand up and observe a minute's silence in memory of the deceased. Thank you. [end recording]

IVORY COAST

FRATERNITE MATIN on Failure of Brazzaville Talks

AB011610 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 31 Oct-1 Nov 84 p 26

["The Brazzaville Conference: A Failure Fraught with Consequences" by Kebe Yacouba]

[Excerpts] The inter-Chadian reconciliation conference has been a complete failure after a week of dialogue of the deaf between hostile brothers.

On the eve of the opening of the conference, the Congolese authorities rightly thought that this time reconciliation would be possible. One reason for this is that a truly fraternal atmosphere prevailed at the hotel where all delegations had been put up and there were also meetings among the Chadian brothers in their hotel rooms. On 20 October, when the meeting was due to begin, a Libyan delegation landed unexpectedly in Brazzaville and got in touch with Adoum Yacoub, the leader of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] delegation, and with other faction leaders. The Chadian official radio reacted immediately against that untimely presence and promptly predicted the failure of the Brazzaville meeting.

From the outset, after the inaugural ceremony presided over by Congolese head of state Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the GUNT requested as a precondition that the meeting be held under the aegis of the OAU. This had never been the case. Chadian Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou had to accept it after consulting with Ndjamena, in order not to make his government shoulder the responsibility for an eventual failure. On 21, 22, and 23 October, the very cordial atmosphere of the first days gave way to an atmosphere of conflict: no more private meetings between the delegations. The Ndjamena authorities blamed the Libyans for being at the root of the conflict that paralyzed the hitherto fraternal atmosphere between Chadian brothers. The bone of contention was the issue of legitimacy of the Hissein Habre government. The GUNT demanded, as a precondition to the negotiations, that the Ndjamena government renounce this legitimacy and agree to participate in the discussion as a political and military "faction," that is, as the FAN (Northern Armed Forces).

Of course, the Chadian foreign minister, Gouara Lassou, rejected this demand because, according to him, Hissein Habre is not seeking "any certificate of legitimacy. He has come to Brazzaville to reconcile with his opponents." As long as this precondition is demanded by the GUNT, the necessary national reconciliation will always elude the country and the specter of renewed fighting on the northern front will remain.

Taking a look at the geographical and political map of our continent, it is a reality that today, out of all the regimes in our countries, 98 percent of them — starting with Libya itself — came to power through a coup d'etat. And yet, they are legitimate governments, recognized by the international community. Not too far from us, a head of state, democratically elected with 80 percent of the votes cast, was overthrown 2 months later. And the ruling military regime there now not only enjoys a wide international audience, but also wants to contribute to solving the great problems (in particular Chad) facing the OAU.

It is true that Hissein Habre cannot ignore his opponents in seeking ways to redress Chad, but to subject him to shameful biddings amounts to a plot aimed solely at removing him from power, without taking into account the valuable gains of 2 and 1/2 year rule.

LIBERIA

Planning Minister Praises FRG Assistance

AB012030 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Planning and Economic Affairs Minister Emmanuel O. Gardiner has lauded the West German Government for its assistance toward Liberia's infrastructural and economic development. He said: Since the establishment of relations at

ambassadorial level between the two countries, Liberia has benefited immensely from German technical and financial assistance.

Minister Gardiner was speaking Wednesday at a reception tendered in honor of the visiting German delegation at the Ducor Palace Hotel. The delegation arrived in Monrovia last week to hold discussions on bilateral and economic cooperation between the West German and Liberian Governments. Minister Gardiner hoped the discussions with the German officials will further strengthen the economic cooperation between Germany and Liberia.

For his part, the head of the delegation, Mr Helmut Rufel, said his delegation was highly impressed with the warm hospitality accorded them since their arrival in the country and assured his country's willingness to help Liberia overcome its economic problems.

Agriculture Minister To Visit UK, Malaysia

AB012027 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Agriculture Minister Joseph M. Boakai has left the country on an official visit to London and Malaysia. While in London, Mr Boakai is expected to sign a marketing agreement between the Rubber Corporation of Liberia, RCL, and the Ridge and Company for the purchase of RCL rubber by the London-based company. In Malaysia the agriculture minister will visit rubber and oil palm facilities at the invitation of the company consulting for the Goodrich Rubber Corporation in Bomi County and the Deckwood plantation in Maryland County.

The minister told reporters at the Roberts International Airport that the visit to Malaysia will give him an insight into the operations of oil palm industry. During the minister's absence, deputy agriculture minister, James Gabby Coleman will act as minister.

MALI

French Justice Minister Arrives for Visit

AB012138 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Robert Badinter, French justice minister and keeper of the seals, arrived in Mali this evening for a 5-day friendly and working visit.

NIGERIA

Buhari on ECOWAS Meeting, Regional Summit

AB011641 Lagos NAN in English 1611 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Lagos, Nov 1 (NAN) — The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, said in Lagos yesterday that the future of ECOWAS was bright and urged member countries to develop confidence in the community.

Receiving a message from President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo at Dodan Barracks, the head of state said that Anglophone and Francophone countries within the West African sub-region should not be obsessed with the activities on organisations in the region which, he said, were based on linguistic lines. He thanked President Eyadema for his concern about the economic and political development in the region and said that Nigeria would host a meeting of the heads of state of the Republic of Togo, Benin, Ghana and Nigeria later this month, adding that Nigeria would attend the summit of ECOWAS scheduled to be held in Lome, Togo.

The message was delivered by the Togolese ministers of interior and external affairs, Mr Tevi Djidjoge Lacle, and Mr Atsu-Koffi Amega, respectively. In the message, President Eyadema briefed Maj Gen Buhari on the forthcoming ECOWAS summit and the summit of the heads of state of Togo, Benin, Ghana and Nigeria.

Buhari Receives Financial, Industrial Reports

AB011633 Lagos NAN in English 1325 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Lagos, Nov. 1 (NAN) — Two study groups set up last month to look into the financial management in the public sector and to produce an industrial policy for the country today submitted their separate reports to the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari.

The groups were led by their chairman, Alhaji Musa Bello (study group on financial management) and Chief C.O. Ogunbanjo (industrial policy). Submitting his report, Alhaji Musa asked the Federal Government to declare its stand on the devaluation of the naira in view of the country's external financing. He also asked the government to refinance its local debts and to abolish the present system of provisional allocation of foreign exchange. According to Alhaji Musa, his group found that there was excessive documentation of government transactions resulting in delays in the implementation of government policies. Alhaji Musa said that his 10-man study group was satisfied with the government's present financial regulations, but suggested that social and economic factors should be taken into account in making decisions.

Chief Ogunbanjo told the head of state while submitting his group's report that the numerous memoranda received were testimonies to the conviction held by members of the group that setting up of the study group was timely and that there was hardly any substitute for a continuing dialogue between the government and the affected public in matters of industrial policy. He thanked the River and Kano State governors for the cooperation the group received from them.

Receiving the reports, the head of state said that the two groups were very important. He said that the financial group was important because it was management or the lack of it that plunged the country into its present economic mess. He said that it was unfortunate that Nigerians had been brought up under a bureaucracy which was rather hard to change, but assured the study group on financial management that its report would be quickly and carefully considered by government. [sentence as received]

On indutrial policy, Maj Gen Buhari, said that he hoped that the private sector would no longer apportion blame now that it had been given the opportunity to have a say on government industrial policy. He urged them to be sympathetic with government views when it finally took decision based on the report of the study group.

Border Security Tightened To Curb Smuggling

AB012026 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The Federal Government says it has reinforced security at Nigerian borders to curb attempts to resume smuggling. Briefing media executives in Lagos yesterday, the minister of information, Group Captain Samson Emeka Omeruah, said security agents were aware of plans and warned those responsible to desist.

The minister also spoke of reports that thousands of nationals of Niger Republic and Chad have crossed into Nigeria. He said while Nigeria was willing to assist neighboring countries where possible, the security of the nation was foremost.

Fourth OATUU Conference Postponed to 21 Jan

AB011747 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The fourth conference of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity, OATUU, scheduled to take place between 1 and 10 December in Nigeria, has been postponed to 21 January next year. The acting general secretary of the NLC [Nigeria Labor Congress], Dr Lasisi Oshide, announced this in Lagos. He said that the decision was taken at the OATUU executive meeting held in Accra, Ghana, recently to give Nigeria time to prepare adequately for the [words indistinct] Shimono as a presidential candidate during the forthcoming OATUU elections. The OATUU has affiliated trade unions in 50 African countries.

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens Receives Invitation To Visit Brazil

AB011746 Paris AFP in English 1734 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Freetown, Nov 1 (AFP) — A two-member Brazilian delegation left Sierra Leone today after delivering an invitation to President Siaka Stevens from President Joao Figueiredo for the Sierra Leonean leader to visit Brazil.

One of the Brazilians, Danilo Bos Zerwes [spelling as received], said Brazil was taking part in the building of a 700-bed hospital in the West African country. He also asked that Brazil be considered for a role in any new technical programmes the Sierra Leone Government intends to embark on.

Mr Stevens said he would like to visit Brazil, but gave no indication as to when such a visit could take place.

President Kaunda Calls for Strengthening PTA

MB020940 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpts] His excellency the president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, has said the Preferential Trade Area, PTA, is an instrument in the hands of ordinary people of East and southern Africa, and that the more it is strengthened, the more effective trade will be. President Kaunda said this when Burundi Minister of Commerce Albert Muganga called on him at State House and delivered a special message from his president, Jean-Baptista Bagaza. Mr Muganga is here to attend a meeting of the PTA.

Dr Kaunda said the PTA should be viewed as an instrument in the hands of the people, and added that Zambia is grateful, and looks forward to President Bagaza taking over the chairmanship after Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. He said the PTA has already started trading without foreign exchange in certain areas, and said this is a revolutionary measure.

On President Bagaza's invitation for Dr Kaunda to attend the next PTA summit to be held in Bujumbura next year, Dr Kaunda accepted the invitation, and added that it is important for delegates to be led by heads of state or government, because they should be able to make decisions on the spot.

The PTA has also been described as a very useful organization for industrial development in the area. Speaking on arrival at Lusaka International Airport yesterday, Zimbabwean Minister of Industries and Technology Kumbirai Kangai said the prospects of industrial development are very (?grand), adding that what is needed is to mobilize resources.

Mr Kangai, who has come to attend the 2-day PTA ministerial meeting of industry ministers, said there is need to make the region aware of its natural resources potential, and that the PTA should formulate plans that will benefit countries in the region.

Mundia Calls for Pressure on RSA Over Namibia

MB020945 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Nalumino Mundia, has appealed to the international community to force South Africa to grant independence to Namibia and remove the obnoxious system of apartheid in South Africa itself, so that the two countries can join the Preferential Trade Area, PTA.

Mr Mundia said the continent needs the two countries to join her in the African economic community, which he said cannot be achieved as long as the people in the two countries remain slaves of the Pretoria regime. He said Africa is still dependent on those countries, and that this trend should be reversed because the continent should become economically strong, and be treated as a partner by the entire world.

Mr Mundia called for a change of the present international economic order, whereby developed countries resist change for their own selfish interests.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Declares Mourning Period for Gandhi

MB011416 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] According to a dispatch signed by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, 2 days of mourning will be observed throughout the national territory from 1500 of 1 November until 1500 of 3 November on the death of Her Excellency Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of the Republic of India. During the mourning period, all flags will fly at half-mast and all public shows and recreational activities will be suspended.

Security Minister Meets With CPSU Group

MB020715 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] In Luanda this afternoon, Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo Dino Matroce, the minister of state security, met with a delegation of the administrative and military organs department of the CPSU Central Committee. During the meeting, they discussed issues of bilateral interest.

Drugov Vasiliv, the first deputy chief of the administrative and military organs department of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Angola on 24 October at the invitation of the Angolan Defense Ministry.

BOTSWANA

Merafe Says RSA Forces Fired on BDF Vehicle

MB021200 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Excerpt] The Botswana Defense Force's [BDF] Major General Mompati Merafe [BDF commander], has said that members of the South African Army fired at a BDF vehicle on Wednesday evening at (Ngoma) inside Botswana. Maj Gen Merafe said in a press release that the vehicle was not hit, adding that members of the BDF suffered no casualties. He said the matter has been taken up with the South African authorities.

Masire Sends Message to New Indian Prime Minister

MB011745 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1610 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, has sent a message to the new Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, who was sworn in yesterday a few hours after his mother's assassination.

The message reads: It is with great sadness that I convey to you personally my heartfelt condolences following the tragic slaying of your dear mother, the Honorable Mrs Indira Gandhi. Sad as the occasion is, I nevertheless wish to congratulate you on your assumption of the leadership of the great people of India. I pray

God to give you wisdom and foresight as you take over the responsibilities of a high office.

The message continues: It is my ardent hope that under your leadership, the good relations that currently exist between our two countries and peoples will continue to grow in the years to come.

Mrs Gandhi will be cremated in New Delhi on Saturday. Botswana will be represented at the funeral by the minister of external affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe.

LESOTHO

Information Minister Urges Basotho To Vote BNP

MB011125 Maseru Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The minister of information and broadcasting, the Honorable D.T. Sixishe, has appealed to the nation to vote Basotho National Party, BNP, in the coming election. Addressing a pitso [tribal council meeting] at (Hatsisiti) in the (Korokoro) constituency yesterday, the minister said that the prime minister is at present appointing persons who will serve in the electoral office. As soon as this work has been completed, the date of the general elections will be announced.

Mr Sixishe said that the prime minister has sent ministers to all districts of Lesotho to present the BNP election manifesto to the electorate. He said the BNP is representative of all the Basotho and there is no reason why everybody should not vote it back to power. He said that in the same manner, the prime minister is the leader of the whole Basotho nation and not only the BNP. The minister said that everybody should vote BNP inspite of different political differences.

MAURITIUS

Premier Leaves for India To Attend Ghandi's Funeral

AB011626 Paris AFP in French 1547 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Port Louis, 1 Nov (AFP) — Mauritian Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth left Mauritius on Thursday afternoon at the head of an important government delegation for New Dehli where he will attend Mrs Ghandi's funeral on Saturday. Following the national mourning decreed by the Mauritian Government, all celebrations and ceremonies scheduled in the country have been canceled, while flags are flying at half-mast. The Indian Government has chartered a special plane for the Mauritians who would like to attend the funeral of the Indian prime minister.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Sends Anniversary Message to Algeria

MB011315 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has sent a message of congratulations to President Chadli Bendjedid on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the beginning of Algeria's armed struggle of liberation, which is marked today in that northern African country.

In his message, President Samora Machel recalls with profound emotion the militant solidarity and the unwavering support expressed by the Algerian people and the FLN party toward our struggle for national liberation. In expressing the noble feeling that their freedom was incomplete while other fraternal peoples remained enslaved by colonial domination, the Algerian people generously trained the first Frelimo combatants and supplied the first weapons that enabled the beginning of our struggle against Portuguese colonialism, the message stresses. President Samora Machel reaffirms the belief that the Algerian people, guided by the FLN party under the leadership of President Chadli Bendjedid, will attain new and greater victories in the building of their well-being, prosperity, and happiness. The Mozambican head of state expresses the desire to strengthen the links of friendship and cooperation between the two states.

Machel Receives Message From Sao Tome President

MB011218 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] President Samora Machel yesterday received Manuel Vaz Afonso Fernandes, Sao Tome and Principe's minister of justice, who was carrying a message from Sao Tome President Manuel Pinto da Costa to his Mozambican counterpart.

RSA Bans Press Conference by 'Armed Banditry'

MB011135 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The South African Government this morning banned representatives of armed banditry from granting a press conference in Pretoria. AIM reports that dozens of journalists who had received personal calls to attend the press conference heard one of the bandit representatives stating that the conference had been postponed. This representative said that the conference would have to be held in another country because the South African Government would not allow it to be held in South Africa.

Official Says RENAMO Has Abandoned Talks

MB021317 London BBC World Service in English
1300 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] An official of the rebel movement in Mozambique, Renamo, has said the group has abandoned talks in South Africa,

which are intended to achieve a cease-fire in his country. The official, Jorge Correia, told a correspondent for the BBC in Lisbon that he had been at the talks and the Mozambique Government had acted in bad faith by repeatedly declaring that it would not negotiate with Renamo. South Africa has held a number of separate meetings with the Mozambique Government and Renamo but our correspondent says both sides have adopted uncompromising positions.

Bank Governor Meets With RSA Counterpart
MB011200 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 1 Nov 84

[Text] Prakash Ratilala, governor of Bank of Mozambique, met in Pretoria on Tuesday with Gerhard de Kock, governor of the Reserve Bank of South Africa, *NOTICIAS* reported today. Prakash Ratilala has been in South Africa since Monday to attend a conference on investments in southern Africa. Since that day, he has held talks with businessmen and representatives of South African and international finance institutions. The delegation, led by the governor of the Bank of Mozambique, includes Americo Magaia, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

Briefs

Youth Delegation to USSR — A delegation from the Mozambican Youth Organization led by a member of the organization's national secretariat last week left Maputo for the USSR to attend the 3d session of the international preparatory committee of the world youth and student festival. [Summary] [*Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 1 Nov 84 MB*]

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Cites 'Progress' at Cape Verde Talks
MB030538 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The United States and South Africa have reported progress after 2 days of talks on the Cape Verde Islands on the future of South-West Africa. Another round of talks is scheduled for 6 November.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, told a news conference in (Sedanta) Praia that there had been progress, and that a sensitive phase in the negotiations had been reached.

The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, described the talks as positive for progress and peace in southern Africa. Dr Crocker said that he relayed to the South African delegation Angolan proposals for a peaceful solution, including specific ideas on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Dr Crocker said that South Africa had undertaken a study of the Angolan proposals, and would give a concrete reply very soon.

Pik Botha To Meet Italian Counterpart in Rome
MB021135 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] The South African Broadcasting Corporation's Rome correspondent reports that the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is scheduled to meet his Italian counterpart, Mr Giulio Andreotti, in the city today. The meeting may be slightly delayed, however, by events in the wake of the assassination of the Indian prime minister.

Our correspondent said Mr Botha was expected in Rome from the Cape Verde Islands, where he had been holding talks with the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker. Apart from the meeting with Mr Andreotti, no other official engagements have been scheduled for Mr Botha, who is due to leave for Tel Aviv later this week.

RENAMO Asked To Postpone Press Conference
MB011724 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] A news conference which was to have been held in Pretoria by the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] movement this morning was postponed at the last minute for an undisclosed date at the request of the South Africa Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Renamo delegation, led by the movement's secretary general, Dr Evo Fernandes, has been in Pretoria for the past few days. A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs confirmed a short while ago that the acting director general of the department had requested Dr Fernandes to postpone the news conference in the light of further developments this morning. The department declined further comment.

A member of the Renamo National Council, Mr Vincent Ululu, told newsmen this morning that no date had been set for t' next meeting of the peace commission. He added that the future of the commission had not been jeopardized by the latest development. He added that the 15,000 Renamo men under arms were still in conflict with the Mozambican Government forces.

Delegates Opposition Group Asks Release of Mandela
MB011128 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1018 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Durban, Nov 1, SAPA — Solidarity, the official opposition in the House of Delegates, has called on the government to release jailed African National Congress leaders, such as Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, and Govan Mbeki. The Solidarity law and order spokeman, Mr Maoo Rajab, was responding today to an article by the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, in the influential magazine *LEADERSHIP SA*, in which he raised the possibility of some of the jailed leaders being released.

Mr Rajab said the ANC leaders had been imprisoned for more than 20 years. "Whatever their offences, they have paid a penalty far more than South African law usually exacts from a prisoner," he said.

The release of the men and others sentenced at the time of the Rivonia trial would have a great effect on public opinion throughout the world.

The government, Mr Rajab said, was making impressive progress in bringing about peace in southern Africa by its negotiations with Mozambique and Angola. "Men like Mandela, Sisulu, and Mbeki can also bring about peace in South Africa," he contended.

Buthelezi Says RSA To Cede Land to Swaziland
MB011817 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 1 Nov 84

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] If Chief Gatsha Buthelezi of KwaZulu is to be believed, then the South African Government plans to cede chunks of territory to neighboring Swaziland are far from dead. The original idea was to hand over the Ingwavuma region of northern KwaZulu and the Swazi-speaking KaNgwane homeland to Swaziland. After an outcry and court action early this year, the plan was shelved. But now, according to Chief Buthelezi, the authorities are considering the hand over of a pocket of Ingwavuma occupied by the Temba people. From Durban, Neil Lewis reports:

[Lewis] Chief Buthelezi revealed that the Pretoria authorities had decided to grant self-determination to the local tribe, the Temba clan, as the first step toward drifting it away from the KwaZulu government. According to two affidavits in the possession of Chief Buthelezi, the leader of the Temba clan had signed a document in 1979 handing his territory over to the late King Sobhuza II of Swaziland. Since then, members of the South African national intelligence service have been actively canvassing the people to accept Pretoria-style independence. Once separated from KwaZulu, the local clan would then appeal to be incorporated into Swaziland.

An angry Chief Buthelezi said he had been warned by Pretoria that his administration should not upset the close cultural ties between the Temba tribe and the Swazi people. He warned that he would not accept the breakaway. Pretoria's new plans would cause bloodshed, he said.

The new moves by Pretoria to cede northeastern KwaZulu to Swaziland is the latest in the ongoing attempt to strip the African majority of the South African citizenship. Early this year, Pretoria hurriedly dropped plans to cede Ingwavuma and the KaNgwane bantustan to Swaziland after a widespread protest and two successful court actions. A spokesperson for the white Department of Foreign Affairs denied there were any plans to cede territory to Swaziland.

Commentary Views Effect of U.S. Election on RSA
MB020655 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 Oct 84

[Editorial: "Hope He Wins"]

[Text] From a South African point of view, we hope that President Reagan will be returned to office for a second term. We are not as presumptuous as Bishop Tutu is to try, even indirectly, to suggest to the Americans how they should vote or not vote. They know better than we do what are the domestic and international issues that require them to vote for the President (or for his opponent, Mr Walter Mondale, depending on how they see things).

We are onlookers. We watch the American Presidential campaign with no direct involvement. We do not think America's constructive engagement policy towards South Africa is, or should be, a major issue, though people like the Rev Jesse Jackson try their best to drag it into the campaign.

However, although the great majority of Americans are not going to vote one way or the other because of Mr Reagan's policy towards South Africa, and we will still have to resolve our own problems whoever becomes the next American President, we do have a major interest in the outcome. For we want constructive engagement to continue.

We don't want our relations with the United States to be returned to the freezer, which would happen if Mr Mondale became President. We want to continue to talk to the United States, to have its support in the peace initiative in Southern Africa.

We want to talk to the United States, too, about our domestic reform policies, of the need to encourage these developments, to continue investments, to stave off sanctions that would destroy all hope of peaceful progress, and to help improve the lot of our people of colour.

Yes, we have a great deal at stake. And people like Bishop Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Winner Extraordinary, is aware of this. So he tries to influence Americans by saying that a win for President Reagan would be disastrous to the Black cause here. That is utter tripe.

Constructive engagement does not encourage the South African Government to get tougher with the Blacks. On the contrary, on domestic issues, it helps to encourage the movement away from apartheid, it helps to encourage reform.

We make our own decisions, but the American Government is able to put great moral pressures on South Africa by talking to us instead of putting our backs up by threatening us, as Mr Mondale, the Vice President, did when he met Mr John Vorster, then our Prime minister, in Vienna.

As for disinvestment, which Bishop Tutu favours, it can only harm the Blacks, who benefit most from having American companies here helping to improve the lot of the Black worker.

Indeed, though Bishop Tutu says America's name is mud among Blacks because of President Reagan's policy towards South

Africa, the fact of the matter is that President Reagan is helping Blacks by taking a firm line with Pretoria in matters in which he feels America should use its influence.

As for the peace initiative, which is bringing great benefits to Mozambique and promises just as great benefits for other neighbours who sign peace accords with South Africa, there is no doubt whatsoever that President Reagan's support is of tremendous importance.

Only radicals and political priests who profess peace but excuse, if not actively encourage, violence would want the subcontinent to remain destabilised. President Reagan is a positive influence for reform in South Africa and peace in the subcontinent. That is why we hope he will win.

Commentary Urges Broad Dialogue on Future

MB021102 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 23 Oct 84 p 14

[Editorial: "Nurture This Hope"]

[Text] Maybe it is an indication of the urgency of the issue that the debate on the blacks is appearing ever more strongly at the forefront. A survey of the widely divergent standpoints that have emerged recently shows that:

— In his opening address to the new parliament, the state president indicated that the political future of the blacks had become a matter for urgent attention.

— At the Transvaal congress of the National Party, and again at a conference this past week in Pretoria, Minister F.W. de Klerk said work should be done on a constitutional model for blacks. If this did not succeed, he said, the entrenched rights of the whites could collapse like a house of cards.

— Among blacks, the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize to Bishop Tutu is seen an a recognition of the "struggle for freedom."

— In Stellenbosch, Rev Allan Boesak admitted that he had asked people overseas, as well as here at home, to pray for the fall of the government.

— The new leader of the Methodist Church in Southern Africa, Rev Peter Storey, has pleaded for the abandonment of arms and dialogue for peace.

Meanwhile, a look at events among the black communities — the continuing unrest and the problems at the schools — gives the impression that evil is brewing. Why do the children listen to the instigators, and why do they keep making new demands as soon as the government has agreed to earlier demands? Why are the law-abiding blacks in fear of returning to their residential areas at night? Why does it appear that there is a period of confrontation ahead? Is there already polarization? These are all questions that can no longer be pushed aside lightly. Indeed, Minister de Klerk, by implication, said just that: Timely action must be taken on "the rights of others."

The how and when are now equally important. What can be accepted, in any case, is that blacks are not simply going to agree to a model for the future that is determined by the whites alone.

Maybe we should all swallow our pride and allow the dialogue to be as broad as possible — for the good of the whites' future as well. There is still a strong desire for hope, rapprochement, reconcilliation, and for a search for peace without violence. It dare not be smothered.

SWAZILAND

Correction To Officials Speaking at Chiefs' Meeting

The following correction to the item headlined, "Officials Speak on Shake Up in Government, Army, Police," published in the 1 November Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page U 7, is supplied from a rebroadcast of the item on 31 October. At the beginning of the speech by Prince Bhekimpi, at "chiefs' meeting" at Elusaseni Royal Residence on 27 Oct 1984, insert:

[Text] [Bhekimpi] You were called last year to the Royal Cattle Byre in Lobamba and Makhosetive was introduced to you as the crown prince. You all celebrated. Today we are here again. The chiefs have been called again. I want to explain now why the Senior Prince Sozisa has retired from the public eye. When the residence of the crown prince was shifted here, where we are now gathered, there was a great deal of dissent and we could not understand Senior Prince Sozisa's stand. All of a sudden he was dissenting and there were expressions of discontent and criticism from him. How could he, as the senior prince, the very person the nation looks to for guidance, now start dissenting? That is what necessitated his present retirement from the public eye — as we are hoping that this sudden change of allegiance is temporary — so that the matters of state could carry on smoothly.

There are some events that I intend to review for you, my countrymen, to substantiate the contention that the senior prince has misbehaved and has thus brought this suspension upon himself. The royal family will call him again at an appropriate time. He has as yet not been summoned. He has gone home for a rest, and so has the former governor of the royal residence [Vusumuzi Bhembe]. Both have been given indefinite leave to go home and rest. They will be summoned in time to explain their sudden change of allegiance.

Not so long ago we had to put out the fire of dissent in the royal family, and now we have to do it again. Just what is going on in this place? Are you all bewitched? Countrymen, I shall briefly explain our latest action in retiring the senior prince from his duties. Since the late king left us, there is strife in the royal family. Where does it all stem from? There are rumblings of discontent in the home and, as someone remarked, it had to happen now that the king was no more. This is exactly what is taking place. There are elements of dissent in the royal family. There now is no consensus among its members and this state of

affairs has to be rectified.

First, the cause of this rift in the royal family is that the late king appointed a council before he died to help run matters of state. The senior prince was told that he would work with this council to facilitate the smooth running of matters of state. The council was appointed so that there would be no wrangling over power. The senior prince was part of this council. Since then, a great deal has taken place. Queen Regent Dzeliwe was replaced. Other things took place. Members of the royal family were detained, and so on. The monarch pardoned them and accepted them back into the fold — the very people who were intent on destroying the royal family! The monarch pardoned them because she was full of God's mercy. We all rejoiced. Not long after that there were more rumblings of discontent from members of the family. Good heavens! It was happening again!

First, my countrymen, let me not delay the meeting. Just this year — let us ignore what happened last year — the senior prince continued working with the council. He was the one with the power of signature in the absence of the former Queen Regent Dzeliwe. He signed state documents whenever the need arose on behalf of the monarch. Now came the time to transfer the power of signature to the present queen regent, and things started going wrong. Somehow, it now seemed difficult for the senior prince to relinquish the power of signature to the monarch.

When the power of signature was transfered to the Queen Regent Ntombi in March, it was impressed upon the senior prince that he had been signing on behalf of the monarch, who was now present and perfectly able to sign for herself. That was when rumblings of discontent again began to creep into the royal family circle among its senior members, who made it clear that they were against the transfer. They then sent a delegation to the monarch to query her right to the power of signature, maintaining that this right belonged to them as senior members of the royal family. Who gave you this power of signature, they asked her? Are we not the ones who appointed you to this position? We told you then that the right of signature would be given to you at our discretion? So where do you get it from now, since we did not initiate it?

Good heavens! The unthinkable was happening. Four men in all said their piece at this encounter, and I will mention their names right here. The first to speak in this delegation led by the senior prince was Prince Dabede, then followed Prince Mshelevu, Prince Mahhomu, and Prince Maguga. These very four demanded that the right of signature be transfered back to Senior Prince Sozisa. But the right of signature had been given to the rightful owner. Prince Sozisa had no right to it. And besides, this transfer was necessitated by the fact that the senior prince was misusing this power and putting his signature to documents unilaterally without the knowledge of the council. All these secret documents were threatening to destroy the nation, and that is why it became necessary to transfer the power of signature to the rightful authority so that she could make her own mistakes. This, my countrymen, is what the delegation of senior princes said to the monarch, questioning her authority to her face.

Was it not the council that gave the power of signature to Senior Prince Sozisa, that he could sign on behalf of the monarch? This very council, which was appointed by the late king, asked the senior prince to sign in the absence of a queen regent. He agreed in the presence of both the present queen regent and the council. But now that it had come to light that the senior prince was failing in his duties, and was signing documents in secret, it became necessary to transfer the power of signature back to the monarch, the rightful owner. It would be better for the monarch to make her own errors rather than to have Senior Prince Sozisa messing up the affairs of state.

The council's recommendation evoked visible anger from Senior Prince Sozisa. It was as if they had stepped on the tail of a snake. This strange behavior of the senior prince was being guided by wolves, who were holding his tail and directing him into the fire. It was not Prince Sozisa that was after the power of royal signature, but a secret council that was misusing the senior prince's powers to wrest away the powers of the monarch. The council simply decided to use Prince Sozisa to achieve their own ends. They were dead set against having the powers of royal signature transferred back to the present queen regent.

I will enumerate the names of men in that council at the approriate time. They were the ones that were misdirecting the senior prince. They had a stranglehold on him, and urged him to go and demand the return of the power of royal signature. They knew that they would be able to manipulate him as they had already done in the immediate past. Prince Sozisa was expected to sign a number of documents for them before the transfer of the authority of signature to the monarch. Now their plans were foiled by this premature, unexpected transfer of authority. This is precisely why the council took its quick saving action. It realized that Prince Sozisa was in great danger and was unaware of the consequences of his actions. The council decided to save Prince Sozisa by removing from him the power of royal signature. The powers were then transferred back to the monarch as I have already indicated.

The secret council that had a clandestine working relationship with Prince Sozisa included, among others, Princess Mnengwase, and four men that were eventually dismissed from government service. Today the four no longer serve in government. My fellow countrymen, 20 March was the day on which the secret council tried to usurp the authority of the monarch. It all happened at that house in the forest, Phondvo Royal Residence. It was by sheer luck that I had men that were able to withstand the attack on the monarch's authority. They really saved the day! At Phondvo the meeting had to include senior princes and not junior princes. Even I was summoned from parliament to attend the meeting of the secret council with the monarch. On my arrival at Phondvo, I assessed the situation and decided that I was really not appreciating what these people were talking about. I stepped aside. [3-minute break in audio]

I was later invited to participate in the meeting. My bald head seemed to qualify me to attend the meeting of the elders. With that invitation extended to me, I then summoned the help of the king's junior princes to make sure that I had additional ears listening to what was to be discussed by the senior princes and the monarch. These junior princes then joined me. These are the very people who assisted the monarch in resisting the transfer of

royal signature away from her. Were it not for them, the powers of the monarch would have been usurped on that day. The senior princes demnded the immediate return of the powers of royal signature back to Prince Sozisa. They did not want even a day to go by without the authority being in the hands of Prince Sozisa.

In reply to this demand, I was the first to raise objections. I demanded a clarification by the senior princes as to what their mission was meant to accomplish. How could they demand back the authority of royal signature from the monarch? Were they not the ones who were instrumental in granting the monarch this authority? Do you have another king that you have installed? What are you really up to? In the first instance, you exercised the powers of royal signature on a temporary basis on behalf of the owner. Now that authority is with the owner, Indlovukazi. Now you want it back? What will the nation say to your demand of the authority of royal signature?

Upon competion of the questioning, Mfanasbili jumped into the arena of action, seconding my submissions. Prince Mahlaba also supported my submissions. Prince Phiwokwakhe also did his part in seconding my remarks. Prince Khuzulwandle echoed my sentiments on the matter. These men I have just mentioned are the junior princes, who had not been expected to be present at that meeting. After they had finished making their statements, the meeting dispersed.

The members of the clandestine council then began arguing among themselves as to what they had actually come to do at Phondvo. They expressed their dismay at the tenor of events and requested that the monarch be informed of their gratitude and requested permission to leave the royal residence. The monarch was duly informed and bidden farewell. The people left and the powers of the royal signature remained with the monarch. This was the first incident that indicated that matters were really not going well.

Those who were conniving with Prince Sozisa include Sishayi [Nxumalo], R.V. [Dlamini], and Dumisa. I am only mentioning the relatively significant ones who were involved in this attempt to wrest away the powers of the monarch. Dumisa had just recently returned from England. He had been away. He was exiled during the lifetime of the late king. Well even now he is back in exile in Britian. It was clear that his presence in Swaziland was causing many a headache for the Swaziland Government. It was then decided that he was having a bad influence on Prince Sozisa. Prince Sozisa changed colors overnight upon the arrival of Dumisa in Swaziland. Was Dumisa using his foreign understanding and influence to upset the ongoing machinery?

My fellow countrymen, these are the events of that day that you as chiefs ought to be well informed about because some of you will be wondering as to why the senior prince has vanished from the limelight and possibly get incorrect information from the beer-drinking centers. There are still unresolved problems with LaZwide's household. These problems are awaiting resolution by the elders at the appropriate time. We are simply informing you of this one particular problem to avoid disinformation problems.

The second occurrence of 20 March involves the appearance of a letter which discussed the clandestine council that had visited Phondvo. This letter was published in the press. It charged that those who wanted to wrest the monarch's powers included four men who were the main instigators behind Prince Sozisa. It mentioned two members of parliament, a prince not born by the King, and an ordinary parliamentary staffer. Sure enough when the names were disclosed these were listed: R.V. Dlamini, Sishayi Nxumalo, Dumisa, and Mdiniso. These are the people who were alleged to have really put pressure on Prince Sozisa to act unconstitutionally. When this clandestine council saw the newspaper report, it got into a crazy fit of anger. It summoned another meeting and a letter was typed rebutting the allegations in the press. Upon completion of the letter, it was forwarded to Prince Sozisa with instructions that he append his signature to it.

This rebuttal letter indicated that Mfanasibili was acting in a delinquent fashion by supplying such information to the press. He was misinforming the public. Now they were giving out the true facts. They stipulated their points of contention accordingly, stating that they had voiced their concern at the meeting because some misdirection and error had occurred in the appointment. Someone else had to act on her behalf so they wrote in the letter. Prince Sozisa signed the letter. The letter argued that the queen regent was wrongly placed in the position of authority under the present circumstances.

(Here pick up remainder of speech as previously published beginning, "Someone had to act... ")

Bhekimpi Message to India on Gandhi Death

MB011629 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, today on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi, sent a message of condolence to the Indian president following the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. The message reads:

It is with deep sorrow that I convey to you on behalf of the Government and people of Swaziland, and on my own behalf, our heartfelt condolences on the sudden and untimely death of the honorable prime minister of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi. The death of Indira Gandhi is a great loss, not only to the people of India, but for all of us in the Commonwealth countries and the world at large.

The message continued: The Indian leadership has been robbed of the wise counsel of that leader, who will long be remembered by all those who knew her and her great work. The message concluded: May she rest in eternal peace.

Visiting Chinese Mission Calls on Bhekimpi

MB011711 Mbabane Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] The Chinese goodwill mission from the Republic of China, Taiwan, led by Dr Ku Cheng-kang, chairman of the World Anticommunist League, today extended an invitation to the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, to visit the Republic of China

at his own convenient time. The invitation was extended to the Swazi premier at Cabinet House this morning when the Chinese delegation, on a goodwill mission to Swaziland, called on him.

Receiving the Chinese delegation led by the Chinese ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Chou Tung-hua, the prime minister expressed her majesty's government's sincere appreciation to the Chinese Government for the various forms of technical assistance Swaziland continues to receive from the Republic of China.

Prince Bhekimpi told the Chinese delegation that a lot of Swazi nationals who have been to the Republic of China speak highly of that country and its people. The prime minister responded well to the Chinese invitation and said he hopes to visit the Asian and Far Eastern countries as soon as he gets time.

In reply, the Chinese delegation leader, Dr Ku Cheng-kang, said China and Swaziland were both lovers of peace, and as such can contribute a lot in the maintainance of world peace. The Chinese delegation leader appealed to the prime minister to use his good office and let Swaziland join an anticommunist group of countries that are fighting to maintain free enterprise and democracy throughout the world.

At a luncheon hosted by the Chinese ambassador to Swaziland, member of the Supreme Council of State Mr A.K. Hlophe proposed a toast to the president of the Republic of China, and likewise, Dr Ku Cheng-kang proposed a toast to Her Majesty the Queen Regent Ntombi.

ZIMBABWE

Radio Truth Suspects Influx of Cuban Troops

MB011414 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] There are some strong rumors afoot which suggest that some of the Cubans to be evacuated from Ethiopia and Angola may finish up in Zimbabwe and Ghana. Military cooperation between Zimbabwe and Cuba is said to have been discussed at a meeting between Comrade Mugabe and Menendez in late September.

The Cuban forces may well replace the North Koreans who are alleged to be on transfer to Angola and Uganda. We hope the rumor is false, because the last thing we need in our country is yet another bunch of troublemakers.